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### REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

*The Tribute; a Collection of Miscellaneous Unpublished Poems.* By Various Authors. Edited by Lord Northampton. 8vo. pp. 422. London, 1837. Murray; Lindsell.

"I SET NO cypress on thy last abode,  
Friend of my earliest, best, and happiest days!  
But rather would I plant the solemn sod  
With emblems bright of thankfulness and praise;  
Violet and rose, whose fragrant bloom decays  
In grateful incense to their author God,  
And trustful hope again their heads to raise  
From root ensepulchred in earthy clod,  
Thus didst thou fall, in richest flower and pride  
Of genius and of years; the fragrance pure  
Of learning and example scattering wide;  
Best sacrifice to Him who gave! 'in sure  
And certain hope' to rise beatified  
In the spring morn that ever shall endure.

Happy in life and death, lov'd friend, farewell!  
Happy in life! since life's severest woes  
At Love's transforming smile in joy repose,  
While health is richness, would he deign not dwell!  
Happy in death! for with the invisible,  
With whom was here thy converse, God, and those  
Who share his vision's bliss, thou dost unclothe  
The unbodied sense to words ineffable!  
Farewell a little space! Taught here how brief,  
How insignificant the woes of time,  
From earth I hope not nor regret relief;  
But, rising to thy hopes and aims sublime,  
I'll trust to meet thee far o'er care and grief  
In Love's own native and immortal clime."

Such are the tributes paid by the Rev. H. Thompson, of Wington Rectory, to the memory of his friend, the late Rev. Edward Smedley, M.A. of Cambridge; for whose living benefit this volume was originally undertaken by the accomplished and excellent nobleman, whose name appears on its title-page. Its object, in the spring of only last year, we are told in a brief preface, "was to spare him the necessity for those arduous literary labours which at that time threatened his sight or his life. His hearing he had already lost, and a disorder in his eyes was, to all appearance, sapping a sense still more precious. Before many weeks had elapsed, these anticipations proved too well founded, and death relieved him from his sufferings, and deprived his family of an affectionate husband and father." It has been continued to the end for the sake of those he has left; and will, it is hoped, in conjunction with a forthcoming volume of Mr. Smedley's posthumous poems, contribute, in some measure, to assuage their sorrows and improve their circumstances. The editor offers a very unnecessary apology for his own share in this benevolent design: nothing becomes a coronet more than feelings of humanity and the love of literature; and when the noble marquis has superadded to these the evidences which the volume contains of fine taste and high talent, he may rest assured that another, and a universal *Tribute*, will also be willingly paid to his philanthropy and endowments.

Nor can we withhold our approbation from the distinguished and gifted coadjutors who have joined his lordship in this kind work; a work, the spirit and character of which reflects lustre even upon such names as Wordsworth, Southey, Moore, Joanna Baillie, Bowles, Milman, Montgomery, and Sotheby; not to dwell on those of the noble editor himself, the late Lady Northampton, Lord John Russell, Lady Dacre, Sir E. Cust, Mr. Spring Rice, B. Barton, G. F. R. James, Channock Hare Townshend

(how long since we have seen aught of his graceful muse!) Gally Knight, Horace Smith, Landor, Tennyson, Darley, and, besides others, the fair maiden contributors, Costello, D. M. Clephane, A. Bradstreet, M. Popple, Randall, Agnes Strickland, and Mary L. Boyle.

We have of late, in consequence of the number of poetical publications of various merit, many of them adorning our literature, though not sufficiently exalted to require distinct critical review, been led to notice them in batches of ten at a time: thus paying proper respect to the deserving, and slurring over the failures without severity. In the present instance, the phalanx of contributors offers us a batch of more than twice ten, and compels us to selection rather than general specification: and we begin with some pretty lines to a favourite bird of ours, by W. Empson, Esq.

"Bravo, cuckoo, call again!  
Loud and louder still!  
From the hedge-partition'd plain  
And the wood-toppy'd hill.  
With thine unmistaken shout  
Make the valley ring!  
All the world is looking out,  
But in vain for spring.  
I have search'd in every place,  
Garden, grove, and green;  
Of her footstep not a trace  
Is there to be seen.  
Yet her servants without fail  
Have observed their day,  
Swallow, bat, and nightingale;  
And herself away!  
Shout again! she knows thy call,  
'Tis her muster-drum!  
An she be on earth at all  
She will hear and come."

From the noble editor's pieces we make choice of one sweet sonnet to "Memory."

"Oh, Memory! thou ever restless power,  
Recalling all that's vanished from our sight,  
Thy pencil dip'd now in the rainbow's light,  
Now in the gloomy tints of midnight's hour,  
From youth's gay garden, manhood's blighted bower,  
Culling thy varied chaplet, dark and bright—  
The rose, the rue, the baleful asclepiad:  
Alternating the cypress and the flower!  
Casting with lightning speed thy wizard glances  
Through the long retrospect of by-gone years,  
Whence, at thine hint, in dim array advance,  
Shadows of idle hopes and idle fears:  
Half cheerful is thy saddest countenance,  
Thy sweetest smile, alas, is moist with tears!"

It is pleasing to turn from the right hon. the chancellor of the exchequer's electioneering and political visits to Cambridge, with which all the newspapers have rung, and look upon him in a finer and happier mood—the following is his offering:—

"On Revisiting Trinity College, Cambridge, after Twenty Years' Absence. By the Right Hon. T. Spring Rice.

Years have rolled on since first I passed these gates,  
Yet each succeeding year I love thee more—  
When I revisit thee, within my heart  
Thoughts, images, emotions, crowd. The past  
Awakens from its tomb, and present light  
Blends with the future's dim uncertainty.  
All that is best in life I here have known,  
Love, Friendship, and Ambition, heavenly Hope  
Lifting her seraph-eye to brighter worlds:  
And now the gushing fountains of tenderness  
Which spring perennial in a parent's heart.

Thy walls to me are vocal. Many a sound  
Of solemn warning and of stern reproof,  
Echoes beneath those arches. Time misused,  
And opportunity for ever lost;  
Powers misapplied—these thoughts of deep remorse,  
All, all around me rise, like agry shades,  
Which haunt the midnight of some murderer.  
Oh! had such thoughts flowed earlier o'er my mind  
I should not now lament its barrenness.  
Had they but roused me to some strenuous deeds.

In more enduring love for human kind,  
Purging my soul from sloth and selfishness—  
Had those, whose bright examples might have taught  
To scorn the earth, and humbly strive for heaven—  
Had these but shed due influence, noble acts  
Had sprung from noble thoughts—duty and joy,  
Like two fair sisters with their arms entwined  
And glances love returning, had led on,  
Through deeds of manly usefulness below,  
To the inheritance of brighter crowns.

But though the sun his mid-day height has passed,  
Light yet remaineth while 'tis given to work:  
Then let me not, a vile and abject thing,  
Pass in a world of dreams my life away;  
Or bubble-like float down the stream of life;  
Or like an autumn leaf, circling aloft,  
Whirl in a useless orbit—  
The drowsy joys of indolent repose,  
Or the unmeaning laugh of rapid mirth,  
Accomplish not man's destiny. 'Tis his  
To will—to do—to suffer—days of toil,  
And nights of watching; and to cast his lot,  
To live for others—or to live in vain.

Before the Spirit to Bethesda's pool  
Gave healing power, the waters first were moved;—  
Could but such influence reach a worn like me,  
And rouse from torpor, life new life would gain,  
And, like the eagle springing towards the sun,  
The soul, on angel-pinions borne, would seek  
Eternal beauty, undecaying truth,  
Wisdom heaven-taught, and virtue strong in faith."

As party incites their critics, we often see, with regret, the literary productions of eminent men, ministers or statesmen, treated or rather maltreated by those of the opposite faction, as if they were offences against society. Ridicule, abuse, contempt, are poured out upon the criminal's head, and he is made to appear, if not the wickedest, the weakest of mankind. Not so our course. It always rejoices us to see such individuals enter into the lists of authorship. Even were their efforts feeble, the attempt and not the deed would entitle them to praise. The love of letters is a sure test that the interests of literary men will not be neglected; and a cabinet, without a due feeling of the lustre and importance of the press, would indeed be one for England to deplore. We hail it as a good omen, without distinction of Whig, Conservative, or Radical, when we see men eminently before the public, and occupied with the severer cares of life, employ their brief periods of relaxation and delight in wooing the muse, or cultivating any branch of refining literature.\* Surely, the pursuit will not only attune the mind to the better sympathies of nature, and abate the asperities of the stern politician, but will teach the value of those who exercise qualities, without which history becomes a blank, and the actions of men equivalent to the brutes that live and perish during the same epoch of barren years.

It is with pleasure, after these few general remarks, that we extract a portion of a specimen of Homer's *Odyssey*, the opening of the fifth book, as translated by Lord John Russell. It is the message from Jove, by Mercury, to Calypso, and rendered with much beauty and spirit.

"The golden sandals on his feet he tied,  
Wing'd and immortal, by whose aid he darts  
Swift as the gale, o'er lands and oceans wide:  
Then grasped the wand, whose magic power imparts

\* It may be received as a sample of our sagacity and precision, that the "Times" of yesterday (long after this notice was in type) has torn to pieces the very lines we have quoted from the pen of the chancellor of the exchequer. We think these are very honourable to his heart. Our contemporary has, with much talent, given a political cast to the poem, and mashed its author to the utmost of its powers of ridicule.—Ed. L. G.

Sleep to the eyes of men; or, if allied

With other aim, the weary mortal starts  
From deepest slumber: bearing in his hand  
This rod, he lighted on Pierian land.

Thence from the mountain's top, with one light fling,

He touched the sea; and as upon the wave  
The sea-gull hovers, dipping her white wing  
From time to time, so too did Mercury lave  
His brilliant pinion, till with easy spring

He reach'd the distant isle, where, in a cave,  
Calypso dwells: then, rising from the brine,  
He sought the mansion of the nymph divine.

A fire of cedar, blent with frankincense,

Round the green isle its pleasant odour spread;

The nymph's sweet song beguiled another sense;

And as she sung, she wove the golden thread.

Above the illumined cave a forest dense,

Of cypress, ash, and poplar, reared its head;

Where hawks and herons amid the boughs build high  
Their rocking nests, and sea-mews circling fly.

Round the cave's mouth broad vines embracing throng

Their tendrils, rich with many a clust'ring grape;

Four fountains here with crystal waters flow,

Together rise, but diff'rent ways escape:

There, in green meadows, scented violets grow,

While flowers and herbs, of every hue and shape,

Flourish uncheck'd; a God approaching near

Might well admire, nor deem Elysium dear.

Charm'd with the savage beauty of the place,

One moment he forgot, thus address the cave

The next he stood; Calypso knew the face

Of him she met; such sense immortals have,

Though far and long removed by time and space,—

But undiscover'd was the chieftain brave:

He, sitting on the shore, in melting woe,

Gazed on the barren sea, and let his tears fast flow.

The fair-haired nymph, when she had placed the god

Upon her throne, thus addres him:

'Say, now, mild bearer of the golden rod,

What happy errand gives me such a guest?

For none, till now, have more unrequited trod

My caves; be frank, and tell me thy behest.

Whatever it be, thy pleasure be the lord

Of all my power; but first purloin my board.'

Then on a table spreading the repast,

Ambrosia, and red nectar, Hermes took

Reflection suited to his length of fast;

Then spoke,—

Our next quotation can hardly be of greater

diversity than the

"Mute Courtship, from the Persian,

By Thomas Moore, Esq.

Love hath a language of his own,—

A voice that goes

From heart to heart,—whose mystic tone

Love only knows.

The lotus-flower, whose leaves I now

Kiss silently,

Far more than words will tell thee how

I worship thee.

The mirror, which to thee I hold,—

Which, when I premet

With thy bright looks, I turn and fold

To this fond breast,—

Doth it not speak, beyond all spells,

Of poet's art,

How deep thy hidden image dwells

In this hush'd heart?"

We conclude with one of the maiden offerings

in which we referred in our introduction.

"Woman. By Miss M. Popple.

Ask ye what woman was form'd to be?

Oh, woman was form'd to be fair and vain;

To sport awhile on the summer sea,

But to shrink from the winter-blast of pain.

To smile on man in his hour of joy,

To weave for his brow the festal wreath,—

But to flee from the storms which his peace destroy,

And to quail at the withering glance of Death.

No—woman was form'd for a loftier sphere,

Nor pleasure to court, nor pity to claim,

But to rival man in his wide career,

And to mount with him to the heights of fame.

To laugh at the spectre of Fear, and dare

To gaze unmov'd on the sanguine field;

Man's valour, and pride, and ambition, to share,

Nor in aught, save the strength of her arm, to yield.

Oh, false is the notion that either extreme

Is the path which woman was born to tread!

Her course is that of the boundless stream,

As it calmly glides o'er its sparkling bed.

Though it want the strength of the ocean wave,

Nor whirlpool nor hurricane trouble its breast,

And it still flows on through the darkness cave,

As it flow'd through the sunniest vale of rest.

Yes—to woman was given the twofold power,

To glide with her smile the green vistas of life,

And when its horizon with tempests shall lour,

With that smile to dispel the dark omens of strife.

And, though by her nature defenceless and weak,

She may ask the support of a manlier breast,

Tis such as the tender vine may seek

From the stem by her faithful arms caress'd.

Then deem not that woman was form'd to be

The toy of a moment, capricious and vain;

For bright as an angel of mercy may she

Be found by the wearisome couch of pain.

And though with a feminine softness she shrink

From the toils which in this world man's spirit may dare;

Yet steadfast as him may she stand on the brink

Of that which alike they hereafter must share."

Many of the other contributions are sweet,

fanciful, and poetical; but we trust we have

done enough (independently of the forcible ap-

peal which the volume makes to the moral

sense of the public) to induce many hundred

readers to adorn their shelves with this in-

teresting collection.

*Uncle Horace; a Novel.* By the Author of  
"Sketches of Irish Character," "The Buccaneer," &c. 3 vols. 12mo. London, 1837.  
Colburn.

MRS. HALL has, in the present performance, taken completely new ground; and, instead of animated pictures of cavaliers and roundheads, or the exquisite pieces of rural life contained in her Irish sketches, the work now before us is an animated panorama of to-day, with all its meannesses and vanities, detected with feminine shrewdness, yet redeemed by touches of that good feeling, without which this would be a harsh and bad world indeed. Her own sex ought to be obliged to Mrs. S. C. Hall, for nothing can be more true, more beautiful, or more encouraging, than her estimate of woman. But we will let the volumes speak for themselves, giving the sentiment and character, without trenching upon the narrative. The beginning of an artist's career is thus painted.

"In one of those lone, cold, shivering houses," continued Mortimer, "which stretch out into what once was a meadow, but, having been half built upon, looks gloomy, and drear, and grassless, even now; spotted with a half-naked child, or a few dirty, starved geese, mocking rusticity, and claiming alliance with the soil and misery of London paupers;—in one, or rather at the back of one of these cottages, we found the sculptor. The mistress of the place, astonished at our appearance, directed us, with much civility, across a filthy yard, at the bottom of which appeared what I suppose was intended originally for a carpenter's shed. There was a long, low, narrow window, close to the door, and, before Lady Ellen knocked for entrance, she paused to observe the artist through its dim panes. As he stood with his back to us, it was impossible not to observe the ease and grace of his willowy figure. A tunic of grey cloth was girded round his waist by a black leather belt; and a small cap, of the same material, sat lightly upon long and clustering curls. 'I hope,' said Uncle Horace, 'he is not a puppy.' 'Before him, on an elevated table,' continued Mortimer, 'was a figure evidently intended as a companion to the one Lady Ellen had purchased—a brigand, leaning back, and looking upward, waving his hand in the air. It was partially covered with wet linen; but the attitude of the head, notwithstanding the smallness of the figure, was magnificent. At one side of this rude table stood an easel, around which were different portions of sculpture; and he had managed, with a couple of sticks, to form a sort of reading-desk, to support some books. Apparently, the youth had been fatigued by exertion, and was seeking relaxation in change of employment, for he was reading, though a modelling tool remained in his hand. The clay floor of the shed was heaped with the strange mis-shapen creations of a wild, but fertile and powerful imagination—a skeleton, with extended arms, supported a shroud-like drapery, in one corner; and in the

other a straw pallet was but partially concealed by a tattered curtain.' Mary sighed. 'Go on,' said Uncle Horace. 'There was a poverty in the aspect of the sculptor's dwelling that was painful to look upon; but it was the poverty of circumstances, not the poverty of genius.' 'Right,' interrupted Uncle Horace, 'they are, indeed, distinct.' 'It is hardly fair,' whispered Ellen to me, 'to pry into such a scene.' She tapped at the door, however, and, before he opened it, he threw a ragged cloth over a delft plate, upon which rested a half-eaten crust of bread and a broken vessel of water.

He started when he opened the door, but Lady Ellen endeavoured to remove his embarrassment by saying how much she admired the brigand's wife—how much she desired a companion for it. I wish, dear Sir, you had witnessed the flush of an ambition, perhaps gratified for the first time, suffuse itself over the youth's features. I never saw a man with so pale a cheek, so white a brow; if it had not been for the bright and earnest look of his eagle eye, you might have imagined him a corpse. There was a loftiness in his address, tempered by modesty, which fascinated us both. And he shewed Lady Ellen some models, that would do no disgrace to the glorious sculptors of Italy and Greece. If he lives, he will be a great man; but — " 'Curse you! but,' really, Harry, you provoke me sometimes!' exclaimed Uncle Horace. 'What is to prevent the young man's living? what is to prevent his being a great man? Is not his merit discovered; and when once a man's talent is known and appreciated in England, he must succeed!—By heavens, he shall succeed!' \* \* \* \* 'He looks so very worn:—his parents are both dead. The woman of the house said she believed he had no relation in the world; and yet, poor fellow! he is so energetic, so full of fire. It is quite beautiful to hear him talk of his art; you would imagine he had the power of an emperor, and could call persons and actions into existence for its glory.' 'You have seen him again, then?' 'Oh yes! to-day: and Lady Norley is to have her bust done; and Mary should have seen how delicately her friend, Lady Ellen, managed to bestow upon him a purse. The net-work, she said, as a *souvenir* from herself, the gold to purchase the marble, that was to be a present from her to her mother, which his skill would prevail on her to accept.' 'God bless her!' said Uncle Horace."

A *Woman's Generosity* will also afford us a characteristic specimen. We must premise that Lady Ellen Revis, though slightly deformed, is beautiful in face, rich, and highly gifted; but has just discovered that her cousin is attached to another.

"Many and bitter tears she had given to the wreck of the fairy palace which her heart and imagination had erected and peopled; but having waived over it, in the solitude of silence of her own heart, her succeeding feeling was how to confer benefits on the living. She recalled every word, look, and action Harry Mortimer had addressed to her since the commencement of their acquaintance, and in no one instance could she blame his conduct. Nay, she recalled his very looks, and with something very like self-reproach for having been so 'lightly won,' she pronounced him blameless. Nothing tests nobility of soul so strongly as forwarding a rival's claims to the affection of a beloved object. Ellen Revis was not only noble, but proud; and her pride was tried almost beyond its strength by the desire she felt to appear careless of Harry's affections. Yet, mingled as it was with true woman's

generosity, it enabled her to address her cousin as he entered the library, though she was glad that it was the gentle light of evening, not the glaring sun of morning, that was streaming through the windows, and that the chair in which she sat was sufficiently high-backed to screen her face from observation. 'Oh, cousin, is it you!' she exclaimed; at the same time pressing her clasped hands on her heart to still its beatings. 'Nay, do not attempt to run away, I have been sitting here for hours, reading—I suppose—and waiting your arrival.' Harry stammered out something about being sorry she had waited; and also, that had he known she had been there, he would have come into the library 'long ago.' 'Harry Mortimer,' said Ellen, 'I pray you do not indulge in a habit of story-telling. If you had known I was here, you would have gone to any other portion of the dwelling rather than meet me to-day, nor do I wonder at it. However, come and sit down; no, not there, opposite to me, but here, on my right hand—that will do. You need not draw back—good, my cousin—I am neither going to make love to you, nor offer'—(and here she drew herself up, and, but that she was so completely shaded from the light, Mortimer must have observed the pride that flashed from her eyes)—'nor offer myself as your bride. But I am going to scold you, Harry Mortimer. What have you seen in Ellen Revis to prevent your considering her your friend? Was I not worthy to be trusted with your secret? Was not my sisterly regard for you, my friendship for Mary Lorton, a sufficient guarantee for my good offices?' 'Mary Lorton—secret,' murmured Harry, as she paused. 'Ay, my brother-cousin!' continued the lady, 'I have discovered your secret—your—why should I hesitate about the word,' she added; endeavouring with all a woman's tact to cover the pain, which pronouncing the mystic name gave her—by skillfully turning the subject of her hesitation; 'the word is simple, though you feel it deeply: I have discovered your love for Mary Lorton.' 'My love for Mary Lorton!' he repeated; 'I am sure no word, no act of mine—' 'The very thing I complain of,' she interrupted; 'I know you never treated me as a friend.' 'Upon my sacred honour, Ellen, a coolness has existed between Mary and me for months. The fact was, she became jealous, silly girl, of your letters and the drawings!—and the letters, though I confessed they came from a lady, I could not in honour shew her, containing as they did family affairs, and facts relating solely to my cousins and uncle.' 'And it was ill-judgment not to shew them. Do you not know that those who truly love, though they may have two hearts, can have but one soul! The mystery, my good cousin, to her, was ill-judged!' 'But how, Lady Ellen, how came you to discover this?' Lady Ellen Revis paused; and then she told the truth. It is a question with me whether those who tell the truth from impulse, or those who tell the truth from reason, deserve the most credit. Impulse is nature—reason! dare I call it art? Lady Ellen was not artful, and yet she reasoned. 'It is awkward,' she said, 'and yet why I know not, for we are cousins—brother and sister rather—near akin in blood—and in all truth and friendship. My father told me how highly you complimented me this morning, by thinking me too good to bestow upon a man who had no heart to give for mine. Now, do not apologise; you rejected cousin Ellen, and must positively present her with a wreath of silver willow! But, notwithstanding your

desire to see me mated with a man of heart, and notwithstanding this ugly lump upon my shoulder, I knew human nature too well to suppose you would refuse to swallow the gilded pill, if your heart had not been occupied by something better than heartless speculation!' 'Believe me, Ellen, there is no woman upon earth—' 'You love so well as me, except!'—'No woman on earth you esteem so highly, except!—No woman you would so desire to marry, except!—I know it all, cousin.' 'Lord Norley has been abrupt. I would not wound—' 'Harry!' said Lady Ellen, assuming, for the first, and indeed it was the last time in her life, a proud tone to her cousin; you cannot suppose from my past conduct that you were ever more to me than a dear relative; consequently, my father was not too abrupt. And there can be no danger of my feelings being wounded!' 'Indeed, Ellen, I meant not that,' replied Harry, without noticing her manner. 'If Mary, on my arrival in London, had manifested the least remains of an affection which grew with my growth; but the vanities, the glare, the lovers she has had, the extreme volatility and ambition of her mother, the heavy toiling after distinction of her father, the—' 'You do Mary injustice!' interrupted Lady Ellen, firmly. 'And as I have been the innocent instrument of setting you all wrong, I will be the direct means of bringing you all right again. You shall see what talents I possess for winding off, and winding on, and winding up. I should have been, putting all things else out of the question, a most ill-assorted wife for you; if you get into Parliament (which, asking your pardon, is a task fools find easy now-a-days), the extent of your service to the state will be to make a maiden speech—a speech upon the currency question, one upon the poor laws, ditto on the duty on malt, a few cautious observations on tithes, write occasional letters to the newspapers, and then accept the Chiltern Hundreds! For me, my regret is, that Talleyrand is too old to marry, and that Metternich has, I believe, a wife: they would have suited me exactly; but as to the other members of the diplomatic corps, I, Ellen Revis, hold them in sovereign contempt. No; you and Mary will cultivate roses and children, and Uncle Horace and I will be godmamma and godpapa. Have you any idea what Brown Lorton's property really is?' 'I know what it really was; but living as they have been living lately, I really can form no idea.' 'Well,' continued Lady Ellen, 'I must find that out, because papa must be managed. And—' However, the dressing hour is come. God bless you, Harry; I will set my wits to work for the happiness of you and Mary, and you will both bless Ellen Revis when she is in her grave: there, one kiss upon my hand will do!—it must not be more, or I will tell Mary!' She flew out of the room. 'She is an admirable creature!' exclaimed Harry; 'and what excellent spirits she has—I never saw her in such spirits—delighted at making others happy—what charming spirits! How little do we know of each other in this masquerading world! Before Harry Mortimer had finished his encomium upon his cousin's 'charming spirits,' Lady Ellen had thrown herself upon her bed in an agony of irrepressible anguish: the part she had been playing had overpowered her strength, and so torturing were her feelings, that she would have welcomed death during that and many succeeding hours. Still nothing disturbed her resolution to promote the happiness of her cousin. Men sacrifice others; women, themselves!'

There are some sweet snatches of verse scattered through these volumes; which, whether for talent, feeling, or principle, do Mrs. Hall the highest credit. We congratulate our readers on having to make *Uncle Horace's* acquaintance.

#### IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT.

*The Prison-House Unmasked: in a Letter to her Most Gracious Majesty, shewing that Arrest and Imprisonment for Debt are Violations of Magna Charta, and therefore Illegal; and also the Cruelty and Inutility of the present System.* By Runnymede Secundus. Second Edition. 8vo. pp. 36. London, 1837. Hatchard and Son.

THE cruel uncertainty which has now for several years prevailed, touching the question of imprisonment for debt, seems to have stirred up a new and able advocate in opposition to that practice, from whom we have received the striking pamphlet before us. The prominent argument in this production is, that imprisonment for debt is illegal, being contrary to Magna Charta; and the whole process a fiction invented to defeat the dicta of laws and judges. But, were it otherwise—did Magna Charta ordain incarceration for debt, and every ancient act of parliament, and every great judge who had sat upon the bench for five hundred years, concur in sanctioning it,—still, on the far superior grounds of humanity, morality, and religion, not to mention expediency, utility, and right, we would say that the most illustrious commencement of the reign of a young queen would be to repeal and rescind every authority which could cause such distress and misery to thousands of her people.

Custom has brazed the country to this pernicious and barbarous system, or it would not be endured for a moment. See how quickly the better national feelings are awakened to any individual instance or story of suffering, and how promptly relief is afforded; but the accumulated horrors and iniquities of the gaol seem to excite no other sympathy than if they did not exist. We pity the very criminal condemned to expiate his offence by punishment; but we have no compassion for the unfortunate whose only guilt is the sin of poverty.

If we look around at similar circumstances, we must be amazed at this strange and unnatural apathy. When Africa held a few hundred captives, all Christendom rang with the injury; and crusades were undertaken to rescue them, and avenge the insulted world on their oppressors. Were these oppressors more heartless, more relentless, than the man who consigns a helpless fellow-creature to Horsemerger Lane,\* the Marshalsea, the Fleet, or other prison, there to waste his life in wretchedness, because he owes five pounds, or fifty, which he is unable to pay, after his small substance has been stripped from him by the extortions of low legal proceedings and the torture of low legal minions?

The New Poor Law has created a loud outcry throughout the country against the cruelty of shutting paupers up in Unions, separating men from their wives, and parents from their families; but these are comparatively humane establishments, for they at least feed and clothe the sufferers, whereas imprisonment for debt not only severs all these natural ties, but

\* In this, and perhaps in other gaols, it is stated, that the regulations as to air, exercise, the visits of friends, &c. are the same as those applied to the most atrocious felons.



starves or leaves to perish the husband or the father that has fallen into its merciless fangs. Raiment, or food, or covering, or warmth, or cherishing of any kind are denied to him; he is an outcast from society, the Pariah of free and generous Britain. And what has he done to merit this affliction? he has contracted a debt which losses, or disappointments, or, if you will, imprudence or extravagance, put it out of his power immediately to discharge!

The Bastille in Paris, with its lettres de cachet, provoked the indignation of civilised Europe; why, the Bastille was a playhouse, and the extent of the wrongs it perpetrated a jest, when compared with one year of the agonies inflicted, and the guilt induced, by the debtors' prisons in the metropolis of England.

And by whom are these evils wrought? Are they infamous scoundrels, devoid of sense, shunned and hated? No, they are professed Christians; professors of a faith of which mercy and forgiveness of injury are the essence; offerers up of that sublimely simple prayer which implores of a Heavenly Father to pardon them as they pardon others. And yet these men can, without remorse or an uneasy reflection, proceed to a filthy office, and take an oath which is to deprive their brother of his liberty, tear him from his family, ruin his credit, and make all his future days grief and bitterness. The process is handed to a brutal and ruthless ruffian to execute; and the worthy Christian who has committed this act retires to enjoy the communion of his children, an evening meal of plenty and comfort, and lay his head upon a soft pillow with the conjugal partner of his happier hours—to rise, perhaps, on the morrow, refreshed, and go to his church or meeting-house to worship his Creator, and pray for the forgiveness of his trespasses. Yet "Amen" does not stick in his throat! Is it not monstrous that such things are? nor

"Overcome us like a summer cloud  
Without our special wonder."

It may frequently be observed, that some slight change of circumstance may arouse feelings which habit has rendered dormant; and it is, perhaps, owing to something of this sort that the use of the name of our young and innocent queen, in the phraseology of those proceedings which doom her subjects to the loss of their freedom, has rendered them more odious and disgusting, than when the name of an astute and world-accustomed king was employed. There is a contradiction particularly unnatural in the grating conjunction. To illustrate this we have requested, from a respectable solicitor, a copy of the form in which the name and title of One, who should only be associated with agreeable and affectionate ideas, is thus abused:—"Victoria, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith. To the Sheriff of ———, greeting. We (our dear and loved young queen!) command you, and that you omit not, but enter and take C. D. and him safely keep, &c. until the said C. D. shall by lawful means be discharged from your custody," &c.: and our informant writes us,—"This is a copy of a writ of Capias, upon which the sheriff grants his warrant; and when defendant is arrested, he is taken by the officer to the county gaol. If defendant wishes to be removed to the Queen's Bench Prison, he causes an Habeas Corpus to be issued, directed to the sheriff, who makes a return, containing an extract of the writ: the defendant is then taken before a judge, who signs his name to the commitment, viz:—

"The within-named C. D. is committed to the custody of the marshal, &c. for want of bail, within the causes hereunto annexed, there to remain until, &c.

Signature, \_\_\_\_\_,  
Date, \_\_\_\_\_."

And so any honest, meritorious, and unfeeling citizen of this land of boasted freedom, may, under the authority of its youthful female sovereign, whose heart would bleed at the sight or thought of a single soul in distress, be torn from all the dearest ties on earth, and doomed to want, solitude, and despair. That, too, as this pamphlet shews, contrary to the great fundamental and unalterable principle of the constitution, without trial, and at the mere will (seldom, indeed, of good and right-minded creditors, but) of hardened and vindictive oppressors; perhaps of false swearers; of cheats who thus try to enforce exorbitant charges by the moral torture it is in their option to inflict; of misguided individuals who, in moments of anger and resentment, get into the trammels of rascal-practitioners (the disgrace of a liberal profession), and are obliged to go on, as they drive them and their victims alike to perdition: for the pursuers in turn become the hunted, and few escape from the ruin that too surely follows the "due administration of the laws!"

But we must now go to our author, who says in opening, "Your majesty has ascended the throne at a period of life when the feelings are most alive to the sufferings of others; and when the intellect, unclouded by the Jesuitism of expediency, sees, with almost instinctive quickness, those results which are the deductions of truth and justice—at all times, and under all circumstances, the highest policy. With the sincerest and deepest sentiments of loyalty, respect, and devotion, I shall attempt to call into action those feelings which are the ornament of woman; and, when manifested in a queen, become a beacon light to the chivalry of a kingdom,—that invincible safeguard of royalty. To attempt to make feeling, unsupported by reason, experience, and fact, the guide in a matter of policy, would be disrespectful and unwise; and, from all your subjects have seen and heard, though so young, useless.

\* \* \* If, most gracious Sovereign, it is shewn that your crown has been put into danger by the violation of the Great Charter, and that through that violation, fifteen thousand of your subjects are kept in prisons, without having been brought before a tribunal of their country, without being convicted of crime, without which no punishment can be awarded: that by far the greater number are in poverty and destitution, being unable to 'cultivate the ground, or maintain their families,' which the humane enactments of Magna Charta justly declare necessary, and, therefore, that no man should be imprisoned for debt,—which, unless fraudulent, is no crime,—your majesty will see and feel the necessity of commanding your ministers to take immediate steps to restore the Great Charter to its purity, and remove the tyranny and unlawful oppression from fifteen thousand of your people. Magna Charta is the foundation of the constitution and the liberties of England. In the twenty-ninth article of it, are these memorable words: 'No freeman shall be taken (i.e. arrested), imprisoned, or otherwise injured, unless by the legal judgment of his peers, and the law of the land.' Sir Edward Coke, commenting on those words, remarks, 'the king, by Magna Charta, is debarred from imprisoning his debtor. The power reserved to the crown was, by the common law, allowed to the subject. The Great

Charter shall be taken as common law, and all statutes made against it are void."

Other legal enactments, in the same spirit, are quoted, and the narrative proceeds:—

"The 19th of Henry VII. gave no countenance to any violation of the Great Charter. The fallacious ingenuity of lawyers by (imputent absurdity!) a fiction converted a civil question of account into a criminal act, and seized the person on fictitious grounds. The treacherous cunning of lawyers, or the ignorance of a government, cannot be permitted to abrogate the charter of our freedom, though carried in those troublesome times to unwarrantable excess. The incontrovertible law of Magna Charta was always declared to be inviolable. Lord Chancellor Bacon gave it as his decided opinion, 'that no person could be arrested for debt according to the constitution.' As if to complete the chain of authorities who upheld the true interpretation of the Great Charter, Lord Chief Justice Holt, (*vide Rep. in 'Banco Reginae' 242*), in the reign of Queen Anne, delivered the decision of the twelve judges on this important point, and so sacred did they hold Magna Charta, that they acquitted a man who had killed a constable's assistant in an affray caused by arrest for debt, on the sole ground that arrest and imprisonment for debt were illegal. And Lord Eldon has eloquently declared—mark the word he uses—'Arrest for debt is a permission to commit acts of greater oppression and inhumanity than are to be met with in slavery itself—a permission to tear a father from his weeping children, the husband from the distressed wife, and to hurry him to a dungeon to linger out a life of pain and misery!'"

These are high and important authorities; but as we have said, were they all for, instead of being against, the system of domestic slavery, at the caprice or evil passion of any person, we should still hold that system to be incompatible with policy, justice, morality, humanity, and Christianity. The Inquisition, in its worst age and most rampant cruelty, was not more inconsistent with the rights of man, and the golden rule of doing unto others as we would have others do unto us.

"A brief description (says the writer) of the method by which this violation of Magna Charta is put into practice is so curious, that a few lines may be given to it. In this free country, any man, whether a creditor or a villain, has only to walk to an office in the Temple, and there make an affidavit that an individual is indebted to him any sum (above 20*l.*); having made that affidavit before a 'commissioner for taking affidavits,' a slip of parchment is given to him, which he takes to the sheriff, or to his under sheriff's office, who gives him a warrant, directed to two or more of his men, whom he designates his officers; and upon that unsupported affidavit, according to Lord Eldon, 'a father is torn from his weeping children, the husband from the distressed wife, and hurried to a dungeon to linger out a life of pain and misery.' To be placed where he cannot work, and then to be told, 'Here you shall remain, until you find a ransom or your grave!' It is scarcely credible, but it is true. The wonder is, that it has been borne so long, and that the prisons have not been destroyed. It is clear that submission to what has the semblance of law, but which is in defiance of the great constitutional rights of the people, has induced so many hundreds of thousands to submit to imprisonment without crime, to insult, degradation, and ruin."

The writer then states many cases of such

wretchedness, that, were they related of savages in the interior of Africa, would not be believed.\* Dying men and women, absolutely murdered by being dragged from their deathbeds to expire within a few hours in prison; and that in defiance of medical protests against the act. There is no scene to be conceived in tragedy which can rival these realities in woe and suffering. But they extend beyond the circle of tragic fiction. It is not the individual alone who is condemned to misery; a contagion is propagated throughout society. His immediate relatives come first into contact with the blasting influence, and from them it spreads far and wide. Not in the interior of the prison walls — though, if report speak true, crimes of the deepest dye are generated there† — but all around, is more or less infected with the leprosy; and it may be asserted that every connexion outside the walls is tainted from the poison within.

Among the cases, we find the following curious mention made of Bellingham, the assassin of Mr. Perceval:—

"The true exciting cause of Mr. Perceval's assassination arose from the attempt to use the power of arrest for debt. Bellingham was perhaps insane, and very troublesome at the Treasury. It was ascertained that he was in debt; applications were made to his creditors to arrest him. So extraordinary a request from the Treasury induced a creditor to communicate the circumstance to Bellingham, who saw that, if the request should be complied with, he would be the inmate of a prison for life. In his excited state, he slew the man whom he supposed to have meditated his perpetual imprisonment. Those letters and documents are still in existence. These examples will be sufficient to shew the dangerous character of its application; and the mind will easily perceive how so dreadful an instrument, even in cases where debts are due, may be made the means of revenge, of interest, of ruin; while it panders to the cupidity of the worst grade of common law practitioners, sheriffs' officers, and others of the same degraded stamp. In some few instances, an unwilling debtor, who is able to pay, may, by such process, be enforced. Not two in one hundred would become the inmates of a prison, if able to liquidate the demand."

We presume the writer would hardly have made this statement respecting Bellingham, unless assured of the fact; but to us, we must confess, it seems questionable. We had some cognisance of that catastrophe, and Bellingham's papers, taken from his person, were long time in our custody, and we observed no trace of such circumstances. On the contrary, Bellingham was equally prepared to murder Lord L. Gower (our late ambassador at Petersburg), had he encountered him instead of the unfortunate gentleman whom he deprived of life. But we must copy some further remarks from our author, who says,

"Ask those men whose lives have been passed in executing the law, in guarding the prisoner, or in the character of agents, or as the employés of the prisoner. They are the best practical judges: they will inform you that imprisonment for debt, in ninety-five cases out of one hundred, is productive of loss to the

creditor and the debtor; and that the only gainers are the attorneys, and their condutors and companions, the sheriffs' officers and their men. Would nearly twenty thousand human beings remain for debt in the prisons of your majesty's dominions, if they could pay the demands on them? A common law attorney, an usurer, a sheriff's officer, might have the effrontery to answer, yes; but the common sense of the civilised nations of Europe, who have abolished the law, and every honourable and reflecting man in England, will reply in the negative. Let it be admitted that many are incarcerated for debts to which they are justly liable, arising from ignorance, imprudence, neglect, a want of strict economy, from being sanguine of success, and all the other weaknesses of human nature; yet, is the clergyman placed within four spiked walls better able, in such a situation, to liquidate his debts? Is the shopkeeper enabled, in such a situation, to conduct his business? Is the broken-down officer in a condition to add to his slender pittance? Can the medical practitioner perform his duties, and earn the means of paying? Can the mechanic, who has, perhaps, hereafter to receive his country's thanks, carry on his work in a prison, and thus pay his creditors? Can the workman follow his trade, and relieve himself of the burden probably brought on by sickness, or some of the ills of humanity? None of these can. The widow cannot—a life of imprisonment, we have seen, without a fault, cannot exact it. Can the blind, in a state of destitution, benefit the creditor? If any one thinks that possible, let them walk to the Queen's Bench, and see there a broken-down gentleman, of great acquirements and unimpeachable character, stone blind, in rags and destitution, living chiefly on the charity of his brother-prisoners, with a wife and (eight) children in one small room!\* On his return he will, perhaps, not have the hardihood to maintain its utility. The class of men above mentioned constitute, by far, the greater number of those who fill our prisons; with a considerable proportion of poets, authors, mathematicians, and men of science, who are the instructors, the amusers, and the pioneers of civilised society. Their minds are too harassed by the infliction on them to earn their daily bread—(we know that Bunyan and others have composed their immortal works in prisons, but those were extraordinary men). The gamblers, spendthrifts, and profligates, constitute only a small proportion; and, from all that is known, are not much improved by this method of annoying them."

In this view we have, after all, only a glance at the positive evils of the system: who could estimate its far more extensive negative injuries? How much has it prevented such men, as are here described, from accomplishing of great and good, as well as of common objects? How often, on the very eve of fruition of long-planned and sedulously laboured designs, have the law myrmidons interfered, and crushed the works and all their hopes. In one day the individual would have been happy; that day is denied him, and he lifts his eyes, an outcast from his kind, to gaze upon the dismal vacancy of a dungeon, or the more loathsome presence of some degraded companionship.

The author treats of the Insolvent Court, and other matters connected with his subject. The unproductive bastard compassion, and often severe sentences, of that court, are exhibited in strong light; and the attorney-

general's bill (the shuttlecock of several sessions of parliament) is condemned, inasmuch as "It is a creditor's bill, and not a debtor and creditor's; that the power over the property is far too absolute; the time allowed to the debtor from and between the stages of the process is too short; that the executive part is placed in the hands of sheriffs' officers, and other grasping and inferior men, which is certain to lead to even more plunder and oppression than the present system. The bill shews astuteness, but is not practical, and is contrary to the genius of the people. That bill has been drawn as if there were no persons in the kingdom but wholesale and retail dealers. In case of bankruptcy, or temporary suspension of payment, or the non-payment of a judgment-debt for three weeks, the power given savours too much of despotism; and, moreover, the executive part is placed in the hands of a desperate and reckless class of extortioners, the sheriffs' officers, under the secret collateral direction of those pests of England, the low common-law attorneys. Under the present practice of the law, it may be said that the English are as much dictated to and law-ridden as our Catholic forefathers were priest-ridden, even at greater loss of property and independence. Sir John Campbell's bill will add inquisitorial power to that extraordinary influence now possessed by the legal profession, and which, with a slow and silent Jesuit-step, gradually winds an inextricable coil around the victim, until he finds that to struggle is only to have the cords more tightly drawn, and he yields at last to smooth dictation and unceasing robbery. In that profession there are many excellent and noble-minded men; but, let it be remarked, they never do any common-law business. All the expenses incident on the writs issued in Middlesex only are not less than 500,000*l.* per annum: a frightful sum, unlawfully extorted to pander to the worst vices of a dangerous and reckless class. Upwards of thirty-two thousand writs are issued per annum in Middlesex, the expenses on which, taking one with another, will not amount to less than 200,000*l.* a-year, to be divided among the low-class attorneys and sheriffs' officers: a sum sufficient to produce the mass of corruption, extortion, brutality, and ruin, which is known to be the consequence. There can be no doubt that the creditor should be protected from loss, and that the wealthy debtor in particular should be made to liquidate his debts, and that the power over him should be of so positive a nature as to restrain his extravagance, and virtually compel him so to regulate his expenditure that it does not exceed his means; but that power should be so devised as to prevent avarice, resentment, and the cupidity of those who execute the law, from inflicting unnecessary injury, or, by undue inquisitorial power, trenching on the rights of a free-born man. To bring in a bill for the 'Abolition of Imprisonment for Debt,' when no law exists which can enforce it, unless Magna Charta be trampled under foot, appears to be an absurdity that has no parallel in history! But if Sir John Campbell's act should become a law, as its operative part would lead to the seizure of much property, the sacrifice of it, and virtual plunder, would ensue, if the sale be left to the sheriff or his officers: the only power vested in them should be the seizure. The removal and sale should be by an order from a board of men, not lawyers, of known respectability; and the sale should be public, by any accredited auctioneer selected by the debtor: otherwise the sacrifice of it will injure the debtor, while it does not benefit the

\* These savages, indeed, are more rational in their punishment of debtors; for they either condemn them to work out their debts by servitude, or the creditors are allowed to pay themselves by selling them for slaves. One can see some sense and justice, though severe, in this; but none in simply destroying every useful energy and productively of power of a debtor by incarcerating him.

† We have heard statements too atrocious even for allusion.

\* "The afflicted man is allowed a few shillings a-week by a man interested in his life being preserved."

creditor, but enriches that band of depredators who are the salesmen—too often, the purchasers—of the property of the unfortunate.”

With this we conclude; and if, by any observations of ours, we have succeeded in obtaining public attention more fixedly to this able pamphlet, and producing a feeling on behalf of those whose forlorn cause it advocates, we shall be happy in thinking that our labour has been devoted to the best interests of our country and of human nature.

#### NATURAL HISTORY.

1. *A History of British Birds.* By W. Yarrell, F.L.S. Secretary to the Zoological Society. Part I. 8vo. pp. 48. London, 1837. Van Voorst.

2. *A History of British Quadrupeds.* By T. Bell, F.R.S. &c. Parts IX., X., and XI. Idem. Esq. Vol. II. Nos. VII., VIII., and IX. London, Groombridge; Edinburgh, Whyte and Co.; Birmingham, Barlow; Doncaster, Stafford; Paris, Galignani; Brussels, Haumann and Co.; New York, Jackson.

THE ever agreeable studies of natural history are so consonant to the feelings of all mankind, that the majority love them all; and each particular branch possesses votaries with the warmest affections. The mineral, the vegetable, and the animal world, present endless subjects for inquiry and investigation. Their own natures and qualities deeply interest the mind, and their analogies teach us to extend our remarks to more home and higher objects, which affect the condition of humanity itself, in its widest as well as most intimate relations. Thus the curious and the useful are blended, and the minute leads to the great and comprehensive. The connexion of the scale is as a ladder which ascends from earth to heaven. Creation, change, destruction, reproduction, beauty, contrivance, adaptation, force, and other wonders, are laid open to view; and, in the insect of an hour, the mysteries of the physical world are unfolded to the careful observer. Whence they come and whither they go, as in man himself, remains the secret known only to Omniscience; but there is amply enough to gratify finite longings after knowledge; and the tree, instead of being forbidden, courts the taste of every living soul to its countless varieties and salutary nourishment.

And England is fortunate at this time in the authors who distinguish themselves in pursuits and publications belonging to this class of literature. No month passes in which it is not our grateful duty to notice productions in it of great scientific value and great artistical merit. Among the foremost contributors, the name of Mr. Yarrell must stand prominent; and it is with no small degree of satisfaction that we have taken up his Part I. of a new work, *A History of British Birds*. Had we not been able to judge from his previous performances,\* this single commencing specimen would have taught us what to anticipate from him on so generally interesting a subject. But the pattern is so truly excellent, that we have only to hope there will be no falling off: improvement we hardly think possible. The Part begins with the Raptores, and the first bird is the Egyptian vulture, which is settled as a British bird, from one having been shot in Somersetshire. In the course of his description, Mr. Yarrell informs us that “It will be one of the objects of this history to trace our British birds throughout all the various countries in which they are

found, and thus to shew, as far as has been yet observed, the extent of the range of each species.” It is unnecessary for us to point out the popular attractions that must attach to this portion of the plan. Such a view is much wanted. The golden and white-tailed eagles, the osprey, gyrfalcon, peregrine, hobby, red-footed falcon, and merlin, are the other raptores figured and described; and nothing can exceed the spirit and nature of the illustrations. The birds are living in wood, and you might fancy you could pluck a feather from the cut.

No. II. of Mr. Yarrell's *Birds*, issued since the above was written, continues the work in the same admirable style. The kestrel, goshawk, sparrow-hawk, kite, swallow-tailed kite, the common, rough-legged, and honey buzzards, and the marsh and hen harriers (*Falconide*), are figured and described. From the text we select a few miscellaneous passages.

*Of the Kestrel.*—“Mice, as before stated, certainly form the principal part of the food of this species; and it appears to obtain them by dropping suddenly upon them, and thus taking them by surprise. Montagu says that he never found any feathers in the stomach of the kestrel; but it is certain that it does occasionally kill and devour small birds. The remains of coleopterous insects, their larvae, and earth-worms, have been found in their stomachs; and Mr. Selby, on the authority of an eye-witness, has recorded the following fact: ‘I had the pleasure this summer of seeing the kestrel engaged in an occupation entirely new to me,—hawking after cockchafer late in the evening. I watched him with a glass, and saw him dart through a swarm of the insects, seize one in each claw, and eat them while flying. He returned to the charge again and again. I ascertained it beyond a doubt, as I afterwards shot him.’ In spring the kestrel frequently takes possession of the nest of a crow or a magpie, in which to deposit its eggs. Sometimes these birds build in high rocks, or on old towers, and among the ruins of buildings, laying four, and occasionally five eggs, about one inch seven lines long, by one inch three lines across, mottled all over with dark reddish brown, and sometimes with blotches of reddish brown upon a pale reddish white ground. The fifth egg has been known to weigh several grains less than either of those previously deposited, and it has also less colouring matter spread over the shell than the others; both effects probably occasioned by the temporary constitutional exhaustion the bird has sustained in her previous efforts.”

*Of the Goshawk.*—“The goshawk was formerly in esteem among falconers, and was flown at hares, rabbits, pheasants, grouse, and partridges. It flies fast for a short distance, may be used in an enclosed country, and will even dash through woods after its prey; but if it does not catch the object, it soon gives up the pursuit, and perching on a bough, waits till some new game presents itself. This habit of taking to a branch of a tree and waiting, is particularly alluded to by Colonel Thornton, formerly of Thornville Royal, who was devoted to hawking, and who, in reference to the goshawk, says, ‘If its game take refuge, there it waits patiently on a tree, or a stone, until the game, pressed by hunger, is induced to move; and as the hawk is capable of greater abstinence, it generally succeeds in taking it. I flew a goshawk,’ says the colonel, ‘at a pheasant; but it got into cover, and we lost the hawk: at ten o'clock next morning the falconer found her, and just as he had lifted her, the pheasant ran and rose.’”

*Of the Sparrow-hawk.*—“In reference to the capabilities of this species for hawking, Sir John Sebright says, that he ‘once took a partridge with a sparrow-hawk of his own breaking, ten days after he had been taken wild from a wood. These hawks must be kept in high condition, and cannot fly when there is the least wind: they are upon the whole more difficult to manage than stronger birds. The flight of the sparrow-hawk is rapid for a short distance: he will take partridges at the beginning of the season, and is the best of all the hawks for landrails.’ Mr. Selby says, in rearing the young of this species, care should be taken to separate them very early; otherwise, the female birds, being superior in size and stronger, are sure to destroy and devour the males, as he has repeatedly found, if they are kept caged together. The sparrow-hawk generally takes possession of some old or deserted nest in a tree, most frequently that of the crow, in which the female deposits four or five eggs, each about one inch seven lines long, by one inch four lines broad, of a pale bluish white, blotched and spotted with dark red brown. The young are covered with a delicate and pure white down, and are abundantly supplied with food. Mr. Selby mentions having found a nest of five young sparrow-hawks, which contained besides, a lapwing, two blackbirds, one thrush, and two green linnetts, recently killed, and partly divested of their feathers.”

*Of the Common Buzzard.*—“A few years back, a female buzzard, kept in the garden of the Chequers Inn, at Uxbridge, shewed an inclination to sit, by collecting and bending all the loose sticks she could obtain possession of. Her owner, noticing her actions, supplied her with materials; she completed her nest, and sat on two hen's eggs, which she hatched, and afterwards reared the young. Since then, she has hatched and brought up a brood of chickens every year. She indicates her desire to sit by scratching holes in the ground, and breaking and tearing every thing within her reach. One summer, in order to save her the fatigue of sitting, some young chickens, just hatched, were put down to her; but she destroyed the whole. Her family, in June 1831, consisted of nine; the original number were ten, but one had been lost. When flesh was given to her, she was very assiduous in tearing and offering it as food to her nurslings, and appeared uneasy if, after taking small portions from her, they turned away to pick up grain. Several other similar instances are recorded.”

The tail-piece of the chapter, representing this hen-like action, is extremely pretty; as, indeed, all these embellishments are.

Of Mr. Bell's *History of British Quadrupeds*, we have spoken as former Parts appeared; and of IX., X., and XI. now before us, we have truly to state, that they fully maintain the high character of the work, which is completed by the last Number. In the former, opening with p. 385, we find ourselves engaged with “The Ass;” and we have really forgotten whether or not, in our last review, we left off with that too little admired and respected animal; so we must begin in the middle, as if the donkey were an oration or an epic poem—[droll enough! one has just set up a bray at this moment under our windows! We cannot translate his meaning, and must, therefore, revert to Mr. Bell, who says]—“It appears that as the domestic ass advances northward, it becomes deteriorated. In the genial warmth of its native climate, it is a far superior animal to that

\* See *Literary Gazette*, for notices of his “History of British Fishes,” &c. &c.



which we are accustomed to see in this country. In various parts of Asia and Africa, and in the South of Europe, it still exhibits this superiority; and in Spain particularly, the male asses, which are bred and selected for the purpose of producing mules, are really beautiful animals. Its progress northward has not been rapid: its introduction into this country, however, took place early; for it is mentioned in the reign of Ethelred, when its price was as high as twelve shillings, and again in the time of Henry the Third. Notwithstanding this, it appears to have subsequently become extinct here; for Holingshead distinctly states, that in the time of Elizabeth 'our lande did yeele no asses.' "

Oh, glorious period! this Elizabethan age! There were no asses in the Queendom then. How numerous now, under our gracious Victoria! The restoration, we mean of the ass, to England, "is attributed by Pennant, with much probability, to our intercourse with Spain during the reign of Mary. It would appear by the testimony of Linnæus, that it was rare in Sweden in his time, as he says, in the 'Fauna Suecica,' 1746, 'Habitat in magnatum prædiis rarius;' and in the last edition it is altogether omitted."

The following remarks on the general subject, are extremely judicious and curious:—

"It may be proper here to make a few remarks on the character of the ass, and its nearest congeners, as compared with those of the horse, upon which it has been thought necessary to establish them as distinct genera in the family. It is true, that in the absence of any knowledge of the original condition of the horse, the question can only be considered with reference to the characters of a domesticated and probably much altered race; but as the distinctions upon which the division in question is founded are structural, there is less danger of error than if they had been only those of colour or of general form. The character of the tail is one of the most striking points upon which this distinction rests. In the horse, the whole of this part is covered with long hair, totally concealing its actual form; whilst in the whole of the others, the ass, the zebra, the quagga, the dzigai, &c. it is only clothed with long hair towards the extremity. The mane of the horse, also, is long and flowing; that of all the other species is short and upright. In the former animal, the hinder as well as the fore legs are furnished with those warty callosities which, in the others, without exception, are found only on the fore legs. Waving some other particulars of minor importance, there is one character which, if not in itself to be considered as of primary value, is yet interesting, and not unimportant as a collateral distinction; I mean the general tendency of the coloration and marking in the two forms. In the horse's coat there is an obvious disposition to the formation of small round spots of a different shade or hue from that of the ground,—and this is the case whether the general colour be black, chestnut, or gray: in the genus *Asinus*, on the contrary, the markings are invariably disposed in stripes. The zebra, the quagga, and the mountain zebra, are examples too familiar to require more than this allusion: and in the common ass, not only is the same tendency evinced by the cross mark on the shoulders, but in the young ass there are frequently observed some obscure darkish bands on the legs. These tendencies to a peculiar character of coloration and marking, are well worthy of especial notice in the Mammalia, among which will be found nume-

rous instances bearing upon the distinction of approximating forms. In birds and insects it is still more general and striking, and has always attracted the attention of naturalists; but in the present class it has certainly been too much overlooked."

The mule is the next object of inquiry, and the question of hybrid progeny, and the powers of transmission, is treated of in a striking manner. The author concludes that there is no instance on record of two mules having bred together; though they may with either parent, the horse or the ass. A note at p. 390, we do not think so conclusive as he does; we remember the Bible history, how the cunning patriarch procured the young lambs to be marked. We quote, however, a few sentences, bearing upon the most singular fact in this investigation:—

"The horse and the ass will breed also with the zebra or the quagga; and there are, at the present time, a pair of mules between the former animal and the ass, belonging to the Zoological Society, which are constantly employed in drawing a light cart, laden with provision, &c. One of the most remarkable instances of this kind, however, is the celebrated case of a mare belonging to the Earl of Morton, which indeed affects, in the most important manner, a point of great interest, both to physiologists and to breeders of animals. The point proved is, that the characters of the male parent of the mother's first progeny, exert a marked influence on her subsequent young, whatever may be the peculiarities of the father of the latter. This truth has been already illustrated, when treating both on the dog and on the hog, and it receives a remarkable and interesting confirmation from the present fact. The circumstances were as follows:—The Earl of Morton, being desirous of obtaining a breed between the horse and the quagga, selected a young mare of seven-eighths Arabian blood, and a fine male of the latter species; and the produce was a female hybrid. The same mare had afterwards, first a filly, and afterwards a colt, by a fine black Arabian horse. They both resembled the quagga in the dark line along the back, the stripes across the forehead, and the bars across the legs: in the filly the mane was short, stiff, and upright, like that of the quagga; in the colt it was long, but so stiff as to arch upwards, and hang clear of the sides of the neck: in other respects they were nearly pure Arabian, as might have been expected from fifteen-sixteenths Arabian blood. By what means this mark is fixed upon the future offspring, by a being with which it has no possible immediate connexion, whether by an indelible impression on the sensorium of the mother, or by any other mode of which we are at present wholly ignorant, is a question only to be decided by a series of the most careful experiments; and it must be acknowledged, that there is scarcely a subject in the whole range of physiological inquiry more deeply interesting. This is not, indeed, the place in which such a matter can be discussed; but it will not be deemed irrelevant even to the object of this work, to entreat the attention of those who have it in their power to clear up so important and obscure a question, to the means by which it may be best effected, and which will at once strike every one interested in physiological investigations. That the influence of mental impressions is sufficient, in numerous cases, to account for peculiarities in the offspring of many animals, we have facts enough to render at least very probable; but it is only by numerous well-directed experiments that it

can be brought to a satisfactory and certain conclusion."

Mr. Bell proceeds to the Cervidae, and we have red deer, fallow-deer, and roe; the Bovidae follow, and we have the ox, &c.; next, the Capridæ and sheep, before we arrive at a new order, the Cetacea. From the Bovidae we shall be contented with only one illustration, respecting an animal the most familiar.

"The period of gestation of the cow is nine months. One fact connected with this part of her natural history it is necessary to mention, as it is one of considerable physiological interest. It is well known, that if the cow produce twin calves, one of each sex, the male is perfect, and the female barren; which last is termed a free martin. This is so generally true, that there are not, I believe, more than two or three authentic instances of its fertility. For the anatomical and physiological facts connected with this subject, I refer to the well-known papers of John Hunter, on the Free Martin, in his work on the 'Animal Economy.' The following etymology of the name is taken from the 'Glossary of the Dialect of Craven, in the West Riding of Yorkshire':—'When a cow produces two calves, one a male and the other a female, the female is styled a free martin; which, it is said, never breeds. In Scotland, a cow, or an ox, which is fattened, is called a mart. Hence, probably, the term originated. The female, not fit for breeding, was free, or at liberty for fattening.' My friend Mr. Yarrell suggests, that free martin may mean, 'free for the mart, or market.'"

Might it not be from the slaughter of the animal to be stored for winter food always taking place at Martinmas, in the month of November?

The Cetacea come last, and the round-headed porpoise, the white whale, the bottlehead (rare), the sea unicorn, and the Greenland spermaceti, and other whales, fill up the measure of an excellent publication. A neat title-page, a preface, and a general index, deserve our most favourable verdict in summing up the merits of the whole case. We conclude with an extract, touching the narwhal, or sea unicorn:—

"In most cases, one young one only is produced, which is suckled for a considerable time with the greatest care. To what extent the ascribed power of the tooth may be true, we have but little means of ascertaining; but there is the structural evidence of its form, and its extraordinary development, to indicate that there must be some especial use for so long, and sharp, and powerful a weapon; and really, there seems no reasonable ground for assigning to it any other object than that formerly attributed to it by the ignorant—namely, that of defence. In this respect it forms, indeed, an additional instance to numerous others, of gregarious animals, to the males of which alone belongs such a development of the teeth or the horns as shall constitute them the natural defenders of the herd. The elephant, the wild boar, and even the horse, offer examples of the former, and the antelopes and deer of the latter; and there can be no doubt that the restriction of this weapon to the males, in the narwhal, has a similar object. The usual length of the exerted tooth is about six feet, but it sometimes occurs as much as nine, or even ten feet long. The ivory of which it is composed is extremely compact, and of a beautiful white colour. It is spirally twisted from left to right, is quite straight, tapering to a rather obtuse apex, and is hollow from the base to within ten or twelve inches of the point. It would be a strange anomaly were the apparent singleness of this

weapon real; but the truth is, that both the teeth are invariably formed in the jaw, not only of the male, but of the female also,—but that in ordinary cases one only, and this in the former sex, is fully developed, the other remaining in a rudimentary condition, as is the case with both in the female. To what immediate physiological cause this extraordinary development of one tooth, at the expense, as it were, of its fellow, is to be attributed, it would, perhaps, be difficult to conjecture. It is found that sometimes it is on the right side, but much more frequently on the left; and the corresponding tooth remains extremely small, or even permanently concealed. There are, however, several instances on record, in which both teeth have been exerted to an almost equal extent. It also now and then occurs, that in the female the teeth acquire a considerable size. That this does not arise, as in the partial assumption of the male character in the females of some other animals, from ovarian deficiency, either from age or disease, is proved by the fact of a female narwhal thus furnished, being found pregnant with two young. An instance is recorded in which one of this sex had two very long and fully developed tusks, of which that on the left side was seven feet five inches long, and the other, seven feet.\*

The last work on our list is *The Naturalists*, edited, from No. VII., by Mr. Neville Wood.\* It seems to have received an accession of information and spirit; and is a very miscellaneous and interesting periodical. A paper on the lemur family; another on the muscular apparatus of the wings of birds, on their migration; on poisonous plants in Yorkshire, &c. &c. bring many facts and observations before the reader, and open the way to other intelligence of the same order, which is always perused with gratification. An explanation of the Latin names of British birds is peculiarly valuable and useful for the ornithological student. The following story, related of the fitchet vessel, is remarkable:—

"Bewick says, that this animal, during the winter, has a mode of procuring subsistence which has hitherto escaped the observation of naturalists, and which, though singular, he can vouch for the truth of. In a severe storm, one of these animals was traced, in the snow, from the side of a rivulet to its hole, at some distance from the stream. As it was observed to have made frequent trips, and as other marks were seen which could not easily be accounted for, it was thought worthy of greater attention. Its hole was accordingly examined, the fitchet taken, and eleven fine eels were discovered to be the fruit of its nocturnal excursions. He observes, that 'it may be a matter of curious investigation for future naturalists, to inquire by what art this wily animal finds its booty, so apparently difficult to obtain.' I have often traced the fitchet along the edges of streams and rivulets, and anxiously endeavoured to witness a repetition of this fact, mentioned by Bewick; but, though I have examined many holes, from which fitchets have been taken, I have never seen in them the remains of eels, or any other kinds of fish; and I should be inclined to think, that eels are not a very common dish with the species. The skins and bones of field-mice, the limbs of frogs, and the feathers of birds, are the remains generally met with in their holes."

As we have no doubt that eels leave the water and traverse dewy meadows, we are the more readily inclined to believe that they

might become the prey of the fitchet, without its being obliged to have recourse to any of the extraordinary art supposed by Mr. Bewick. An eel in the grass would be an easier and a safer snapper than a snake in the grass.

Brief reports of the proceedings of societies engaged in corresponding pursuits, add to the value of Mr. Wood's labours.

#### CRITICISM MADE EASY!

*The Natural History of Birds, Quadrupeds, Fishes, Serpents, Insects, &c.; with interesting Memoirs, striking Anecdotes, faithful Likenesses of the principal Individuals, &c.* By the Rev. W. Tiler. Pp. 472. London, Simpkin and Marshall, Crofts; Derby, Mozley and Son; Manchester, Bancks and Co.

WE very frequently receive, with publications, large separate sheets, containing the most piquant extracts from them, and duly appended to each, in italic type, references to the work, name of the author, &c.; and, occasionally, a little bit of praise and puffery. As these *morceaux* generally figure in the newspapers afterwards,—being especially convenient to fill up corners when there is a dearth of politics, balloon accidents, explosions on the river, or police reports of extraordinary adventure among savages,—we rather avoid than allow ourselves to be led by them in the pleasant paths of our critical duty. But the volume, whose title heads this notice, has come to us in another shape, and one which makes criticism so easy, that we are sure our readers will not object to our lightening our weekly labour by adopting it. It consists of a printed letter, signed *R. Aked* (a fit name to save us from toil, with which our own head might have *ached*), and runs as follows:—

"Sir,—I shall feel greatly obliged by your noticing the volume now sent. I feel anxious for an early notice, as it is my intention to publish extracts from all the papers and periodicals that notice it. *You may safely say, that it is the neatest and cheapest work of the kind ever offered to the public.* It is embellished with nearly a hundred engravings. You will find a remarkable and interesting description of the frontispiece, and numerous anecdotes never before published. The work may be recommended as a class-book for schools, and as being well adapted for Sunday school libraries. The author (the Rev. W. Tiler) is an independent minister, and has endeavoured to impress his readers with a lively sense of the wonders of creation. I am your obedient servant," &c.

The reverend author shall certainly, as far as we are concerned, be a minister independent of criticism; and even of the frontispiece we shall only say, that it represents a grenadier bayoneting a royal Bengal tiger, and two other grenadiers, running away as fast as their legs will carry them, though they are carrying their arms. A portrait of Tyrone Power, as *Teddy the Tiler*, might have been introduced as a novelty; but surely, enough has been done, and we have only to require Mr. Aked to fulfil his intention, and publish the extract from the *Literary Gazette* that notices *Tiler's Natural History of Birds and Beasts*.

*M. Tullii Cicerois Orationes Selectæ ex recensione Jo. Aug. Ernesti: with an English Commentary, and Historical, Geographical, and Legal Indexes.* By Charles Anthon, LL.D. London, 1837. Priestley.

WE have already noticed, favourably, the editions of Horace and Terence, by Professor Anthon and Dr. Hickie; nor do we see any

reason to speak in other terms than those of approbation of these select Orationes of Cicero, which are published upon the same principle as their predecessors. In this volume are contained the four speeches against Catiline, together with those for Archias, Marcellus, the Manilian Law, and Murena. The text is nearly identical with that of Ernesti, and the notes, as in Professor Anthon's former undertaking, are accurate and explanatory to the highest degree. The editor, in his preface, anticipates, against this work, the charge we have once before made against a similar production, namely, that the commentary is too copious, and absolutely too much assistance is afforded to the student. He says, in opposition, that one of the most powerful causes that have tended to bring classical learning into disrepute, is the insufficiency of such information, which it is nearly impossible to convey by oral instruction, but which may be easily and advantageously procured from the notes of the textbook. We are as much alive as the Professor to the indispensable necessity of commentary and illustration, in every work addressed to the student; but we would always recommend the utmost caution, lest the supply of information should exceed the real wants of the inquirer. The acquirements of classical literature, though of great value, are not, abstractedly considered, the ends for which this branch of learning is so justly and universally cultivated: it is the course of training which the mind has to undergo in the acquisition of this knowledge, which is the true and real benefit sought after in its pursuit. These very speeches of Cicero, though models of the purest eloquence, are not so much read by the young student, as specimens of the beauty and arts of oratory, which he would find as clearly displayed in the pages of his own Burke or Chatham, as exercises for the understanding. In the perusal of an author of this nature, the nicer portions of our judgment and reason are called into play to elucidate his meaning, and detect his allusions. Attention, observation, and industry, are habits induced by pursuits of this nature; and the mind, by a constant series of these and similar operations, gradually acquires fresh power, and an acquaintance with its own resources. Every thing, therefore, that tends to diminish the call upon the intellect for those exertions which it is competent to employ, is clearly prejudicial to the interests of that study which it professes to promote; and although, from a constant application to a too copious store of appended information, the reader's knowledge may, for the time, seem considerably enlarged, yet, the acquirements attained in this way take but a slight hold on the memory, and afford but little assistance towards the unassisted mastery over fresh difficulties. Whether the notes attached to the work immediately before us fall under this objection, is a question which will be variously answered, and the reply to which ought properly to depend upon the age and progress of those in whose hands it is placed. To the younger aspirants after classical fame, who view the glories of the first class, and the classical trips, through the vista of many years, we can safely recommend this edition, as an auxiliary to their labours; but we are afraid that those who are already wandering by the far-famed Cam and Isis, will scarcely derive enough advantage from the enormous mass of notes (more than half the volume) to compensate for the loss of time and exertion requisite for their perusal.

\* We have either mislaid or never received the No. VIII. and can only refer, therefore, to Nos. VII. and IX.



*Description of the Patent Metallic Lining and Damper for the Chimneys of Dwelling-Houses, &c.* By Mr. Seth Smith. 8vo. pp. 16. London, 1837. Longman and Co.; Carpenter and Son.

*M. Bernhardt on Heating Rooms, Ventilation, &c.*

FEW things are of more importance to domestic comfort (and we say so, near about the dog-days, to shew that our opinion is a lasting one, and not suggested by wintry circumstances) than the means of heating the apartments in which we cook, eat, sleep, and breathe. The progress of chemical knowledge, and the improvement in mechanical arts, are ever and anon bringing forth inventions and apparatus for accomplishing this desideratum in the most perfect and healthful manner; and we look to an early period when there shall be no smoke to annoy, no cold to pinch, no fire to fever us; but all shall be equable, pleasant, and fit for specific purposes, and neither less nor more.

On the road to this economic millennium, Mr. Smith's chimneys, now in use at the Pantheon on a considerable scale, as well as in private houses, deserve our especial notice and commendation. They answer every purpose anticipated by that ingenious individual; and, if generally adopted, would save London from many a conflagration and loss of life. The light work we have named gives a complete account of the plan, and the plates render the explanation obvious at a single glance.

Of Mr. Bernhardt's process we regret to say we cannot speak from personal observation, not having been able to accept his invitation to inspect it. But we can safely state, from the reports of others, men of competent authority, that it is a very excellent and satisfactory invention, and entirely fulfils the promises held out respecting it. When the autumn leaves fall, we may, perhaps, return to the present and immediate subject more in detail; but, in the mean time (being provoked thereto by Mr. Smith's introductory paragraph)\*, we beg leave to turn back a little, for, we hope, the edification and amusement of our gentle readers; for the mode of heating apartments amongst the ancients is little known to us, and therefore it is that we trust the following notes, collected

\* "It has by some been (his book thus opens) considered doubtful whether the Greeks and Romans, during the period of their greatest eminence for architectural productions, had any chimneys in their dwelling-houses; but as Homer, Aristophanes, Virgil, and Apollon, are supposed to mention or make allusion to them, it has been inferred by other writers that they were not wholly unknown to those ancient builders. The oldest certain account of the use of chimneys is stated to be 1347; and it is conjectured they were invented in Italy. Smoke-jacks, which must have been invented subsequently to jacks, which were supposed to be of German origin; and, from a painting which is known to be older than 1350, it is supposed they were in use before that period. In the houses discovered at Herculaneum and Pompeii, there are, it is said, no chimneys; but they appear all to have been warmed by means of flues and a subterranean furnace. Stoves and flues, it is thought probable, were introduced about the time of Nero. Seneca relates that, in his time, there were invented certain tubes, which were placed in the walls, by which the heat of the fire was made to circulate and warm equally the upper and lower apartments. These observations have been quoted as proofs that chimneys were unknown at those periods; but have they not a contrary tendency? It appears more probable that a chimney should furnish the idea for such stoves, than that the use of stoves should be known before chimneys. In the Old Testament there are several allusions to furnaces for the smelting of iron and other metals, which would appear to leave no doubt of the use of chimneys being known at a very early period, especially to the Egyptians (See Gen. 15, xvii.; Deut. 4, xx.; and Ezekiel, 22, xx.). In Nehemiah, the towers of the furnaces are spoken of. In the 1st Book of Samuel, 30, xxx., a city is called the smoking furnace (Chor Asban), probably from the number of chimneys erected in it. The Arabic root renders the word round; they were, no doubt, built in the form of a round tower of lofty height, like some of the chimneys of manufactures at the present day."

from a variety of ancient writers on the subject, may be agreeable.

On the chimneys and fire-places of the ancients, Lipsius, in one of his epistles, says that neither Greeks nor Romans used chimneys. The word *caminus* in Latin, and *καμινος* in Greek, signified a furnace, and not a conveyance for smoke, like our modern chimneys. Vitruvius makes no mention of any, nor has any vestige of such been discovered. Cicero, in his Familiar Epistles, lib. vii. says, "Camino luculentum utendum censeo."† Horace, also, lib. i. od. 9.

"Vides ut alta stet nive candidum  
Sorcato; nec jam sustineant onus  
Sylvæ laborantes, gelique  
Flumina consistant acuto?  
Dissolve frigus, ligna super foco  
Large reponens."

From which it may be inferred, that in order to make an apartment warm, it was the custom amongst the Romans to place wood upon the hearth, or a sort of brasier, and set fire to it. It is supposed the fire was kindled in the midst of the apartment, as in some parts of Italy amongst the peasantry; and that they allowed the smoke to escape through the apertures of the upper part of the chamber. It is probable that Virgil alludes to it in his fifth Eclogue:

"Ante focum si frigus erit, si messis in umbra."

And Varro, lib. i. De Vita Populi Romani: "Ad focum hyeme et frigoribus cantabant; æstivo tempore in propatulo."‡

Lipsius says they employed two methods of heating their rooms in winter; the first was with portable chafing-dishes filled with burning charcoal.

Suetonius, in his Life of Tiberius, observes: "Miseni cinis è favilla et carbonibus ad calefaciendum triclinium illatus, extinctus et jamdiu frigidus, exarsit repente primâ vespërâ, atque in multam noctem pertinaciter luxit."

From which a prognostication was drawn of the death of Tiberius. It was in like manner the custom in Greece. Plutarch relates, in his "Apophthegms," that Alexander the Great having been invited by a friend to a banquet in the winter time, and the servants having brought into the apartment a brasier with a little fire in it, Alexander commanded that they should either bring in more wood or procure some incense, because such a poor fire had more resemblance to a censer for burning a few grains of incense, than a fire to warm in the coldest season of the year. Plutarch, in the sixth book of his Convivial Questions, relates, that Anacarsides approved much of these brasiers, "quod fumum foris relinquentes, ignem purum in domum inferrent."§ Another method of warming chambers amongst the ancients was this.—At the basement a fire was made, enclosed, and the heated air from which, conveyed in tubes fixed in the partition walls, that went up in a winding manner, was carried into every part of the house: these pipes had, in some places, certain apertures, which could be opened and shut at pleasure, by which they regulated the warmth of their rooms. In some ancient buildings remains of these pipes have been observed; which are likewise alluded to by Seneca, in his book De Providentiâ, chap. iv.: "Quem specularia semper afflatus vindicant, cuius cenationis subditus, et parietibus circumfusos calor temperavit." And in his Epistles, xc. "Quædam nostrâ demum memoriâ prodidisse scimus, et speculariorum usum, et impressos parietibus tubos, per

\* I am of opinion that they enjoyed the cheerful fire—

† In cold wintry weather they sang often by the fireside; but in the summer, in the open air.

‡ Leaving the smoke without, they brought the pure fire within doors.

quos circumfunderetur calor, qui una simul et summa forevet æqualiter."

Julian the Apostate, in his oration, entitled "Misopogone," says, that in Arabia, "Non calefaciebant cubiculum in quo eram eo modo quo solent illic, sed caminis loca pleræque caleferi."¶ Which expression serves to prove that in his time chimneys were known in France.

The ancients were accustomed carefully to collect supplies of wood that should give little or no smoke, which the Greeks called *acapna*, that is, without smoke: and the Romans called it *ligna cocta*—as appears from a work on the signification of words: "Titionis, et alla ligna cocta, ne fumum faciant."‡

Julius Capitolinus, speaking of Pertinax the emperor, says, "Pertinaci pater Ælius successus fuit, qui filio nomen ex continuatione lignarie negotiationis, quod pertinaciter eam rem gereret, imposuisse fatetur."§ And the same writer more clearly—"Pater ejus cottiliarum tabernam in Liguria exercuerat."|| A shop in which is sold well-dried wood fit for burning.

A Spartan who wished to accuse the master of the house, because he used this sort of wood, once said wittily, that by its strength in burning, and causing no smoke, he could not weep, the smoke affecting the eyes: "Jocose Iacon Gymnasiarchum, qui acapna præbuerat, accusare se, dixit, quod per eum nec lachrymari liceret." This jest is noticed by Plutarch.

Cardinal Baronius, in his annotations on the Roman Martyrology, cites the following words in the Life of St. Cecilia: "In ære balnei sui inclusa, et subitus totâ die ac nocte magna vis ardentis ignis adhiberetur." &c.¶ And adds, "Erat hic locus in balneo, ubi erat aer calidus nulleque in eo aquæ, sed æstus ad sudandum sub cujus loci pavimento ignis succendebatur, quo pavementum ferventius redderetur."‡

It was an apartment made as before stated, which was heated by fires from beneath, with tubes inserted in the walls, which conveyed the heat. Such chambers were called *caldarium*, from the artificial heat introduced. Vitruvius, lib. v. ch. x. mentions them; and Pliny the Younger, lib. v. ep. xiv. alludes to their being used to suffocate persons of eminence, as was the case with Fausta Augusta, the wife of Constantine the Great, who was destroyed in this manner. In Herculaneum a portable stove has been found for heating water, warming the apartment, and cooking small eatables. And now, our fire is out, good night!

#### Elements of Geology and Physical Geography.

By W. Rhind. Pp. 104. 1837. Edinburgh, Fraser and Co.; J. Anderson. Jun.; M'Lachlan and Stewart: London, Smith, Elder, and Co.: Dublin, Curry and Co.

*The Science of Geology.* By XAOZ. Pp. 78. Glasgow, 1837. Reid.

The latter is a compilation of indifferent merit

\* We are aware, in fact, even within our own memory, that the use of windows was adopted, and pipes also were fixed in the walls, whereby the heat was diffused equally throughout the whole of the apartments.

† The room in which I slept was not heated in the manner which was customary there; the fire-places were generally under chimneys.

‡ The wood of a firebrand quenched, and other charred woods, make no smoke.

§ Pertinax succeeded his father, Ælius, who is reported to have given his son this name in consequence of his pertinaciously continuing the business of a dealer in wood.

|| His father kept a shop for charring wood in Liguria. Enclosed in the atmosphere of her bath, underneath which a large and powerful fire was kept up day and night.

¶ There was a place in the bath where the air was hot, which had no water in it, but heat to produce perspiration, where, underneath the pavement, fire was kindled, by means of which the pavement might be made hotter.

(from another Greek of Glasgow—by the by, see *Literary Gazette* of Aug. 19), though containing the broad elements of the science in a brief compass. What sense, for example, can be made of the following sentence on the *faulds* in coal strata. "They are accompanied by a subsidence of the strata on one side, or an elevation on the other, and sometimes by both." Works for the young and unlearned cannot be too carefully written. The well-informed detect casual errors, and are not misled by them: not so those who, if they are worth instructing, pin their faith to their teachers, and earnestly try to imbibed and comprehend all they teach.

Mr. Rhind's book is of a superior class, and a very useful volume. It is not, however, without blemishes. Page 31, "Lydian stone" is mentioned, as a component of greywacke; but the reader has no intimation, before or after, what Lydian stone is. How, then, can he be informed by this in the composition of the secondary rock. Page 33, we have fine specimens of shells found in limestone, with imperfect references; p. 34, worn for worn, is a Scotticism; p. 36, *equisetæ* are mentioned, for the first time, among other products previously described; and thus it is (as far as the author informs us) an unknown among known vegetable remains; p. 37, an inexhaustible abundance of coal is asserted to exist in the great valleys to the westward of the Alleghany mountains. Is Mr. Rhind prepared to prove this?

But the volume is, as we have said, a very useful manual of geology; and, though the principal examples are selected from the researches of northern authors on the subject, they only do justice to the zeal and talent displayed by the Scottish geologists.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

*The Pulpit*, Vol. XXX. London, 1837. Sherwood and Co.; Edinburgh, Oliphant.

It is gratifying to see a work of this kind encouraged to proceed to such an extent. *Thirty* volumes of sermons, by eloquent and pious preachers, cannot be promulgated throughout the country without producing good fruits. Many of these are very fine compositions: all tend to inculcate the best principles of morality and religion.

*The Young Scholar's Latin-English Dictionary*; with a *List of Latin Verbs, &c., Tables, &c.* By the Rev. J. E. Riddle, M.A. Small 4to. pp. 463. London, 1837. Longman and Co.; Murray.

AN abridgement of the "Complete Latin-English Dictionary," and extremely well done for the use of learners; to whom the larger work will be of more service when they are further advanced.

*Peter Parley's Wonders of the Earth, Sea, and Sky*, edited by the Rev. T. Wilson. Pp. 336. (London, Darton and Clark.)—One of those nice little books which contain "lots" of various information for young people. The editor has made a good selection of matters connected with geology, meteorology, natural phenomena, &c. &c., and seasoned them with anecdotes and relations in an agreeable manner.

*Thomas's Burlesque Drama*: No. V. *The Mayor of Garratt*; No. VI. *The Beggar's Opera*. (London, Thomas.)—These cheap plays are accompanied by designs by R. Cruikshank, which agree with their humour in representing the dramatic personæ.

*The Young Minister's Guide*, &c. (London, Simpkin and Marshall.)—Our favourable opinion of this little volume has been justified by the speedy call for a second edition; to which the writer has added several novelties and improvements.

*British Colonial Library*, by R. Montgomery Martin. *The East Indies*, Vol. I. Pp. 367. (London, Whittaker and Co.)—A very neat and clear map illustrates this very useful republication, which well deserves the favour of the British and Indian empires.

*The Young Astronomer*, &c., by the Rev. W. Fletcher, F.R.S. Pp. 128. (London, Wyle.)—A series of simple lectures, in which the elements of astronomy are clearly explained for the benefit of youthful students.

#### ARTS AND SCIENCES.

##### BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

EVERY needful preparation seems to be making for the reception of the Association at Liverpool. We copy the following from the "*Liverpool Times*":—"The local council formed for arranging and conducting the proceedings is actively engaged. It comprises, without any distinction of party, active and zealous individuals of different pursuits and occupations, all animated by the desire that Liverpool should not fall short of the other places which have been previously honoured by the meeting of the Association, either in respectful attention to the many eminent strangers and foreigners about to assemble here, or in a just appreciation of the undoubted services which anniversaries of this nature render to the cause of science. The several literary and scientific institutions, the various libraries and news rooms, have offered all the accommodation in their power. The town council has also evinced an anxious wish to be a party to the cordial reception with which it is intended to welcome the Association—has made an offer of the noble and unrivalled suite of rooms of the Town-Hall, for the intended evening promenade meetings—and all the other buildings or accommodations over which it has any control are placed at the free disposal of the local council. The Earl of Burlington, president, has accepted an invitation from the mayor to reside with him during the meeting. Sub-committees have been formed out of the local council, to which separate duties have been assigned: one to receive the visitors at the Town-Hall on their first arrival—to deliver to them their tickets—to intimate to each gentleman the No. of the residence where he will find accommodation for the week; and, for the sake of easy reference to these and to the several section-rooms, as well as to the various places of public resort which will be thrown open to strangers at that time, a small plan of the town will be engraved on the back of the tickets. Ordinaries will be provided on an extensive scale for the members; and due care will be had that private parties do not interfere with them. Such arrangements as are above alluded to will, no doubt, enable the local council to give full effect to their wishes, in affording to the Association that reception which it merits, and in maintaining the character of the town for public spirit and hospitality."

#### LITERARY AND LEARNED.

##### INDIA.

THE Annual Report of the last Anniversary of the Royal Asiatic Society contains so much matter of deep interest to our Eastern empire, that we are induced to make an epitome of the leading points for more general circulation, both in England and India.

The continued prosperity of this Institution is a subject of congratulation to the public; and a new feature, the formation of a Committee of Agriculture and Commerce, under the presidency of Sir Charles Forbes, gives promise of important future usefulness. Its labours are addressed to the obtaining of a more perfect knowledge of Indian products, the introduction of such as are likely to be beneficial into this country, and the interchange of commodities suited to the wants of both.

The Right Hon. Sir Alexander Johnston, as chairman of the Committee of Correspondence, entered into a detailed statement of its operations, of which comprehensive and able *exposé* we make the following abstract:—The right

hon. gentleman took a view of Asia and our relations therewith, in three great divisions; "the first, that which is bounded on the west by the Mediterranean and the Red Sea; on the east by the Euphrates and the Persian Gulf; on the north by the mountains of Armenia; and on the south by the Arabian Sea. The second, that which extends from the Himalaya Mountains, north, to Point de Galle, south; and from Surat, west, to Assam, and the Chinese province of Yunnan, east. The third, that which includes the whole of China in the north, and Borneo, Celebes, New Guinea, and the other Eastern Islands, as far as Torres' Straits, and the N.W. part of Australia in the south." With reference to the first, he entered into an examination of "the general conviction which prevails of the necessity and practicability of establishing a direct and expeditious communication between Great Britain and British India, either through the Arabian or the Persian Gulf; and of the general belief which prevails, that the Russian government may, in consequence of the extension of its frontiers towards the sources of the Euphrates and Tigris, attempt, in the event of a future war between England and Russia, to aim a blow at the British possessions in India through the Persian Gulf." Anxious to acquire a thorough knowledge of the geography and topography of this division of Asia, he stated that the committee have "derived so much information from the surveys of the Indian navy, as to render it his duty, considering the debt of gratitude which the friends of science owe to this distinguished body of men, to allude shortly to the history of their military achievements, their maritime surveys, and diplomatic negotiations." Certainly, no body of men ever merited such compliments in a higher degree than the officers of the Indian navy, who have performed these services; and we copy with great pleasure Sir Alexander Johnston's account of them. He said that

"The inhabitants of the western coast of the peninsula of India, from Cape Comorin, south, to Surat, north, have always, from the earliest times, owing to a variety of causes, had a great propensity to piracy. In consequence of this, the Great Mogul, as long as he exercised any authority over that coast, kept up a navy, under the command of an admiral called the *Sedee*, for the protection of the trade which was carried on by his subjects between India and the Persian and Arabian gulfs. The British government, when Bombay was ceded to Great Britain by Portugal, found it necessary to establish and keep up a navy for a similar purpose; and it expended 50,000*l.* a-year upon this navy from 1710 to 1756. In the latter year the government had, upon an occasion of great political importance to the British interests in India, a full opportunity of estimating the value of the services which might be derived from this navy, it having become necessary, in consequence of the innumerable depredations committed by the pirates, and the great extent of coast which they had acquired, to annihilate the power of the celebrated pirate Angrea, who had got complete possession of all the sea-coast, 120 miles in extent, from Tamana to Bancoot, and all the inland country, as far as the mountains, which, in some places, are thirty, in others twenty miles from the sea-coast. The ships and men of this navy having been employed upon that occasion, under the command of one of their own officers, Commodore James, were completely successful; destroyed the whole of Angrea's fleet; and, with the assistance of some

land troops, took his celebrated fort of Severndroog, and all his other forts; and put an end to his authority and depredations. From that time to the present period, they, as well in the capture of the island of Ternate, in the Burmese war, in the expeditions against the pirates of the Persian Gulf, as in a great many other military expeditions upon which they have been employed, have shewn the greatest promptitude, the strictest discipline, and the most undaunted courage. They have been equally distinguished by the zeal, and by the great practical and theoretical science, with which they have executed those maritime surveys by which they have been enabled, during the last forty years, to complete the most useful and valuable charts of different parts of the coasts of Asia, and of the coasts of the Arabian and Persian Gulfs. During the latter part of the last century, many of the officers gained great credit by the different maritime surveys to which their names are respectively affixed. In the beginning of the present century, Captains Ross and McGowan made a trigonometrical survey of the seas between the Straits of Malacca and the Yellow Sea. In 1819, in consequence of the benefit which had been previously derived, during the expedition against the pirates in the Persian Gulf, from the accuracy with which they had examined the different inlets and creeks in that sea, some of the officers were employed by the Bombay government in making the chart of the whole of the Persian Gulf, which was completed in 1828. In that year, in consequence of the desire which was evinced by the public, of having a communication between Great Britain and British India through the Arabian Gulf, Captain Elwon was employed, in the Benares, in surveying that Gulf, from the Strait of Babelmandeb to Judda; and Captain Moresby, in the *Palinurus*, in surveying it from Judda to Akkaba and Suez: and the result of these two surveys has been published in that magnificent chart of the whole of the Arabian Gulf, of which Captain Cogan has presented a copy to the Society. In 1833, some more of the officers were ordered to survey the coast of Arabia, from the Arabian to the Persian Gulf, and thereby connect the survey of the eastern coast of Africa, made from the Cape of Good Hope to the Arabian Gulf, by Captain Owen, of the Royal Navy, with that of the western coast of the peninsula of India, made from Cape Comorin to the Persian Gulf, by the officers of the Bombay Marine; and between eight and nine hundred miles of the coast of Arabia have already been surveyed by them. In the same year, Lieutenant Wellsted was employed in surveying the Island of Socotra; and his chart, and his account of that island, copies of which are published in the *Journal of the Geographical Society*, do the highest honour to his talents and to his scientific acquirements, and afford the public a proof of the advantage which they have derived from the employment of such an officer on so important a service. Many of the officers of this navy have availed themselves of the opportunities which their profession has afforded them, of acquiring a knowledge of the customs and interests of the different native chiefs on whose coasts they have been employed. Captain Cogan has particularly distinguished himself by his knowledge of the territories and of the interests of the Imám of Muscat; and by establishing an intimate alliance between that chief and Great Britain. He, at the request of the Imám, two years ago, brought to England the *Liverpool*, of 74 guns, as a present from the Imám to the king of Great Britain; and,

by command of his majesty, last October, took back one of the finest of the royal yachts as a present from his majesty to the Imám. This officer, while he was in England, having given the committee much useful information relative to the countries and people under the authority of the Imám of Muscat, and to the protection and encouragement afforded by the Imám to arts and sciences, the Society, on the recommendation of the committee, nominated that chief one of its honorary members, and sent him, by Captain Cogan, a diploma, conferring that honour upon him. The government of Great Britain, aware of the importance of the Bombay marine, have lately extended to that navy the provisions of the Mutiny Act; have given the officers a fixed rank; have placed the whole establishment under the superintendence of one of his majesty's naval officers at Bombay; and have changed the name of the service from that of the Bombay Marine to that of the Indian Navy. Under all these circumstances, I can have no doubt that the Society must be, as the Committee of Correspondence is, convinced that the Indian Navy is, at the present moment, not only one of the most important departments of the military and civil services in British India, but also one of the most powerful engines which can be employed by the Society for procuring information relative to Asia, and for diffusing amongst the people of that division of the globe, the arts, the sciences, and the civilisation of Europe."

With regard to the second division of his subject, the Right Honourable Chairman directed attention to the approximation between the countries which would be effected by opening a direct communication through the Arabian and Persian Gulf; colonising India by a great body of Englishmen; elevating the Indian population in moral and political feelings; and, lastly, "the measures which must, sooner or later, be adopted by the British legislature for rendering Great Britain independent of foreign countries for cotton and silk, by getting those articles from British India." With a view to these changes, he said, the committee had "taken steps for obtaining accurate information, from genuine Hindu sources, relative to the general history, laws, moral principles, arts and sciences, of the Hindus of India; for establishing literary societies amongst the Hindus; for completing, through them, with the assistance of the local governments, such parts of the Mackenzie Collection as are still incomplete; for procuring, from the East India records in this country, all such reports as can throw light upon the ancient laws, usages, and customs, which, at the time each province was annexed to Great Britain, prevailed amongst the Hindus of that province; for ascertaining the genuine opinions of the Hindus upon all questions of religion, morals, metaphysics, laws, and government; for procuring returns of the statistics of British India from the Bengal, Madras, and Bombay governments; for arranging such returns according to the plan adopted by the French government, in 1802; for procuring all the observations which have been made, either in favour or against the continuance of the permanent system as to lands in India; for collecting information from every part of India relative to the growth of cotton, and the propagation of the silk-worm, for the first of which articles Great Britain is at present dependent upon the United States, and for the second of which upon France and Italy, instead of deriving both, as it is believed she may do, from British India, and thereby circulating amongst her own sub-

jects, in her own territories, that portion of her capital which she now circulates for those articles amongst foreigners in foreign countries."

Among the most interesting topics to which he alluded was the revival, at Madura, of "the ancient Hindu college, which is supposed to have had so great an influence upon the education and character of the Hindus in the southern peninsula of India, from the third to the tenth century of the Christian era."

In a note to his Report it is stated, that "in consequence of the influence which was exercised by this college, for seven centuries, over the Hindus in the southern peninsula of India, the celebrated Jesuit missionary, Robertus di Nobilibus, who resided at Madura in the seventeenth century, and the equally celebrated Jesuit missionary Beschi, who resided at Trichinopoly in the eighteenth century, both formed plans for reviving it; but, owing to the dissensions in their order, were unable to carry them into effect. The father of Sir Alexander Johnston, and the late Colonel Mackenzie, who resided at Madura in 1783, having procured an account of the ancient college, and copies of the plans of Robertus di Nobilibus and Beschi, in that year formed a plan of their own for the revival of this college; and Colonel Mackenzie, who was an officer of the engineers, and who was then superintending the building of the house for Mr. Johnston, which is known at Madura by the name of Johnston House, and which is now the property of Sir Alexander Johnston, at the request of Mr. Johnston, laid out this house in such a manner as to enable Mr. Johnston, whenever an opportunity might offer, to convert it into the Hindu college which he had planned. No such opportunity, however, occurred during the lives of Colonel Mackenzie and Mr. Johnston; but as the house is still the property of Sir Alexander Johnston, he has offered to make over all right which he has to it, according to the original plan of his father, to any individual or society who may agree to carry that plan into effect; and he is now in communication with a society abroad, who have the intention of sending out to Madura six men, eminently distinguished in different branches of science, for the purpose of establishing themselves at Madura, educating the Hindus of that part of India, and circulating amongst them the arts and sciences of Europe."

On the subject of the third division, the following circumstances were related, and possess much commercial interest.

"The first, that of the frontiers of the British possessions in India having been recently extended, partly by conquest, partly by acquisitions obtained by treaties, to the neighbourhood of the province of Yunnan, the western province of China. The second, that of the discovery which has recently been made, that the tea-plant is growing in a tract of country extending 300 miles within the British territories. The third, that of British traders having been enabled, in consequence of the opening of the trade with China to all British subjects, to visit parts of that empire which were never visited before by British subjects, and to become better acquainted than they formerly were with the produce of the different islands in the Eastern Archipelago, and with the various wants of their inhabitants. With a view to these circumstances, the committee have taken measures for procuring all the valuable information which is preserved in the archives of the Jesuits, at Naples, Rome, Genoa, Venice, Paris, Madrid, and Lisbon, respecting Upper and Lower Assam, Munipore,



Bong, the north-east parts of the Burmese empire, Laos, Cambodia, Cochin-China, and all the western provinces of China; for calling the attention of the British public to the moral, political, and commercial importance of the Anglo-Chinese college, established at Malacca by the late Dr. Morrison, and so liberally supported by Sir George Staunton; for encouraging the Rev. Mr. Gutzlaff to proceed in his very interesting inquiries relative to the history, literature, and science of China, to the practice of medicine in that country, and to the different idioms which are spoken by the people of Japan, who inhabit the coasts of that empire; for acquiring a knowledge of the island of Quelpert, which, from its local situation, is of as much importance to those who wish to carry on a trade with Japan and Corea, as the island of Singapore is to those who wish to carry on a trade with Siam and Cochin-China, on the one side, and all the islands of the Eastern Archipelago on the other; for having translations made from the Dutch into English of all the papers in the Dutch records of Ceylon, Cochin, Negapatnam, and Malacca, which throw any light upon the history of the islands in the Eastern Archipelago, and upon the trade which was, and is still, carried on between the Dutch settlements and those islands; and for obtaining from Mr. Earl,—a gentleman whose observations as to these islands, and the policy which the British government ought to observe with respect to their inhabitants, are of so much value,—the information which he collected during the recent voyages which he made to Borneo, and many of the islands in the Eastern Archipelago.

*Inter alia*, "At Calcutta, the improved system of education which has been introduced amongst the natives; the number of useful works on science and literature which have been translated from the English into different Oriental languages; the variety of newspapers, in English and in the native languages, which are circulated through the country; and the frequent public meetings, and public discussions, which take place upon subjects of great public interest, have gradually weakened the prejudices which prevail amongst the natives against coming to Europe; and must ultimately induce them to follow the examples set them by the celebrated Brahmin, the late Rammohun Roy, and the Mahomedan Prince Jamh-ud-din, of visiting England themselves, of becoming acquainted, upon the spot, with the nature and effects of all its political institutions; acquiring the means of exercising a direct influence upon the government of British India, and thereby protecting the rights and privileges, and promoting the local interests of themselves and their countrymen. At Madras, the natives, by forming a Hindû Literary Society at that place, shew the desire they feel to acquire knowledge, and to promote the researches of this Society, by inquiring into the history, religion, laws, architecture, and agriculture, of their country."

A remarkable notice is taken of the prince we have just mentioned:—

"After visiting different parts of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and obtaining a knowledge of the agriculture, manufactures, and statistics of the country, he has become a proprietor of East India stock, and thereby acquired a right of exercising an influence by his vote, over the British government of India. The history of this prince's family shews the great changes which have taken place in India within the last fifty years. Hyder Ali, the grandfather of the prince, was once so powerful a chief, that in the years 1781 and 1782, some

of his troops were so near Madras as to render it unsafe to reside in any of the garden-houses near Fort St. George; and Lord Macartney, the then governor, and his private secretary, the present Sir George Staunton's father, derived great credit from being able to get him to conclude, in 1783, that treaty, in allusion to which, the portrait of Lord Macartney, and Sir George's father, now in the present Sir George Staunton's possession, was painted. Scarcely twenty years afterwards the British army succeeded in annihilating altogether, under his son Tipoo, Hyder's dynasty; and Prince Jamh-ud-din, the son of Tipoo, and a pensioner of the British government, is now in England, and qualified to exercise, as a proprietor of East India stock, a greater influence over the British government in India, than his grandfather, in the plenitude of his power, had ever exercised."

The Report concludes by noticing "the liberal and enlightened conduct of the foreign merchants at Canton and Macao, as well of those who are subjects of the United States, as of those who are subjects of all the different sovereigns of Europe, in unanimously resolving to subscribe a large sum of money, for erecting a monument in honour of the memory of the late Captain Horsburgh, shews the estimation in which they hold scientific acquirements. \* \* The person to whom the honour is paid, is one who left his home in Fifeshire as a cabin-boy, who, having been employed as a sea-faring man in the Indian seas, was wrecked between Batavia and Ceylon, on the Island of Diego Garcia; and was, in consequence of this misfortune, first led to make those valuable observations, and to collect those valuable materials, from which, with the assistance of Sir Charles Forbes, and his other friends, he afterwards published that magnificent collection of charts, which is known by the name of the 'Indian Pilot.'"

With this we close our abridgement, and have only to express our hope that these enlightened inquiries and designs may be followed up with the vigour they deserve, till both England and India rejoice in the fruits they must, at maturity, produce.

*Hindustani Literature.*—It has been generally supposed that there exists not a literature in the Hindustani language, or, at least, that the number of authors who have chosen it as the vehicle of their thoughts is extremely small. The study of the language has, in consequence, been, with a few distinguished exceptions, left to those to whom it was an object of importance to possess the power of oral communication with the natives. Perhaps the little attention with which it has been met from professed scholars may be traced to the somewhat premature judgment passed upon it by Sir William Jones, who, before he had turned his attention to the subject, pronounced it a "vulgar jargon"—a judgment which, we believe, he subsequently found reason to reverse; as some translations of his from that language (if, indeed, he has not left an express testimony in its favour) virtually tend to shew. The industry and learning, however, of a foreigner, Mons. Garcin de Tassy, one of the professors at the Bibliothèque Royale of Paris, will set this matter in a new light to us Englishmen; who, considering our facilities of communication with India, and our interests there, might be expected rather to enlighten foreigners on such a subject, than to be indebted to them for our information. That gentleman has, without enjoying the advantage of a residence in India,

collected, from Oriental sources, biographical notices of nearly seven hundred Hindustani authors, with numerous extracts from their works. Mons. Garcin is at present in London, for the purpose of prosecuting his researches at the East India House, the British Museum, and in the libraries of private collectors, previous to the publication of his "History of Hindustani Literature," which will embody the results of his inquiries, and which may be shortly expected to issue from the Imprimerie Royale of Paris.—*From a Correspondent and Constant Reader.*

#### FINE ARTS.

MR. SWANDALE'S PORTRAIT OF THE QUEEN, Great Russell Street, Bloomsbury.

WE have had much pleasure in looking at a whole length picture, about half the size of life, of our youthful and beloved sovereign, painted by Mr. Swandale. The artist has not had the advantage of a sitting; but has so ably availed himself of frequent opportunities of being near her majesty, that the portrait not only bears, what, under the circumstances of the case, may be considered a surprising resemblance of the illustrious original, but is divested of that formal air which too frequently accompanies pictures painted from the life. The architectural and other accessories are executed with great care and skill.

#### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

*Ryall's Portraits of eminent Conservative Statesmen.* No. V. Ryley and Co.

WE have, in the present Number, portraits of "The Right Hon. the Earl of Harrowby," from a picture by Madame Meunier; "Sir Robert Fitzwygram, Bart." from a picture by T. Phillips, R.A.; and "Mr. Sergeant Jackson, M.P." from a drawing by G. Richmond: the first engraved by H. B. Hall; the last two by J. Brown. They are all animated and faithful resemblances.

Although the letter-press consists of six more pages than usual, yet it is stated in a notice prefixed to the number, that "the necessary length of some of the memoirs, made it impossible to insert entire that [those] of the Marquess of Londonderry and the Earl of Harrowby." As a specimen of the ability and spirit with which the memoirs are written, we will quote the character of Mr. Sergeant Jackson:—

"With respect to the personal appearance of Sergeant Jackson, it may be said, that his countenance is intellectually severe in its outline, but its expression is kind and benignant. His style of oratory is simple and concise, and strictly free from rhetorical artifice. Preserving, at all times, a most courteous demeanour, he never hesitates to speak in plain terms the plain truth; and there is no gentleman in the House of Commons less liable to be driven from his purpose by threats, or deterred by invective. This his opponents have found, and he is, consequently, listened to with attention, although, on some subjects, with evident uneasiness. He states his own case in a manly manner, and, if possible, in a style still more manly, the case of his adversary. Attempts, however, from whatever quarter they may proceed, to mislead by garbled accounts, or divert by sophisms, find in him a remorseless and unrelenting foe. Quick to detect a fallacy, he is prompt and decisive in exposing it; and although the House of Commons may boast of orators more florid in their style, we very much doubt whether it has one more uniformly argumentative."

The following is a very curious genealogical

fact respecting the family of Loftus, connected by blood with Sir Robert Fitzwygram:—

"Margaret Loftus was born at Loftus Hall, in 1670, and died, as Mrs. Boyd of Rosslare, in 1770, at the great age of 101; the two lives (namely, her own and her grandson's) forming a link from the reign of Charles the Second to his late Majesty William the Fourth, a period of one hundred and sixty years, including nine reigns, and exceeding, by ten years, the time mentioned by Lord Wharncliffe, in a note to his edition of 'Lady Mary Wortley Montague's Letters,' where it is stated that her ladyship and her granddaughter, the Lady Elizabeth Stuart, now formed a link from King William the Third to his Majesty William the Fourth, a period of nearly one hundred and fifty years."

*Historical and Literary Curiosities.* Engraved by Charles John Smith. No. VI. Pickering. This is really a curious and interesting publication, attractive equally to the antiquary and to the man of general taste and information. Among the most striking of the plates in the present number are—"The Pulpit of John Knox, in the parish-church of St. Andrew's, in the county of Fife;" a "Representation of the carved Cassolette made from the wood of Shakespeare's Mulberry-tree, at Stratford-upon-Avon, and presented to David Garrick, by the Corporation of the Borough, at the Shakespeare Jubilee;" and "Two illuminated Paintings of the sacred Furniture and Vessels of the Tabernacle of Israel, executed by a Spanish Jew in the fifteenth century."

*Engravings from the Works of the late G. S. Newton, R.A.* Part II. Hodgson and Graves.

THREE well-known and justly admired productions of this able and lamented artist's pencil are here presented to the public. "Abbot Boniface," engraved by J. Egan; "The Deserted," engraved by James Scott; and "Portrait of Mrs. Lister," engraved by G. H. Phillips. They exhibit the art of mezzotint engraving in its perfection.

*The Daughter.* Painted by E. Prentis; engraved by J. C. Bromley. A. Graves. ONE of those scenes of domestic and moral enjoyment by which this country is especially distinguished. It represents a blooming and modest girl, reading the Bible to her attentive and admiring parents. This interesting print does credit to the feelings as well as to the talents of the artists who have concurred in its production. Burns has furnished the appropriate motto to it:—

"So thou, sweet rosebud, young and gay,  
Shalt, beautiful, blaze upon the day,  
And bless the parents' evening ray,  
That watch'd thy early morning."

#### ORIGINAL POETRY.

SIN.

WHEN Sin of Knowledge born, first raised her head,  
Scarce clad in garb of skins, she thrid her way  
Through Eden's bowers, and made her lonely bed  
Near to a murmuring river, which did stray  
Between its grassy banks. There did she nestle,  
Hiding her hideous features from the sun;  
For she with Shame and Sorrow had to wrestle.  
They congering, earth had been but half  
undone.

But she was victor. Then, her brow adorning  
In gayest wreaths, she ventured forth to bask  
In open sunshine, her first blushes scorning,  
And far behind her threw her speckled mask.

Since when, in harlot robes, with poisonous breath,

She walks the city, hand in hand with Death.

H. M.

#### MUSIC.

##### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

*The Letter.* By Samuel Lover, Esq. Duff. It is impossible to praise this too highly, music and words are so truly exquisite: so exquisite and so touching to those who have relatives far away, that we copy them for their enjoyment.

"A small spark attached to the wick of the candle is considered to indicate the arrival of a letter to the one before whom it burns."

"Fare thee well, love, now thou art going  
Over the wild and trackless sea;  
Smooth be its waves and fair the wind blowing,  
Though 'tis to bear thee far from me:  
But when, oh, when we ocean  
Some happy home-bound bark you see,  
Swear by the truth of thy heart's devotion,  
To send a letter back to me."

Think of the shore thou'st left behind thee,  
Even when reaching a brighter strand;  
Let not the golden glories blind thee,  
Of that gorgeous Indian land:  
Send me not its diamonds and treasures,  
Nor pearls from the depth of its sunny sea;  
But tell me of all your woes and pleasures,  
In a long letter back to me."

But while dwelling in lands of pleasure,  
Think, as you bask in their bright sunshine,  
That while the lingering time I measure,  
Sad and wintry hours are mine;  
Lonely, by my taper weeping,  
And watching the spark of promise to see,  
All for that bright spark my night-watch keeping,  
For, oh, 'tis a letter, love, from thee!  
To say that soon thy sail will be flowing,  
Homeward to bear thee over the sea!  
Calm be the waves, and swift the wind blowing,  
For, oh! thou art coming back to me!"

*Know'st thou the Land: from the German of Goethe.* By Moritz Ganz. Schloss.

TRULY German. We like this song exceedingly; the change in the time and accompaniment is very pretty, and the music, in consequence of that change, fully expresses the words.

*The Goblin Quadrilles, composed for the Piano.* Forte. By Calder Campbell. Purday.

WE are pleased to see an original and a very agreeable set of Quadrilles; these are lively and showy, and, for music really to dance to, we could not recommend a better set. A waltz at the end, though rather tiresome to play, is also very pretty.

In our last notice of new music, we had intended to attach Mr. Haynes Bailly's tender and pleasing song to the favourable mention of the music to which it has been set, and we now redeem our purpose, begging our readers to refer to that critique.

"Of what is the old man thinking,  
As he leans on his oaken staff?  
From the May-day pastime shrinking,  
He shares not the merry laugh:  
But the tears of the old man flow  
As he looks on the young and gay,  
And his gray head moving slow,  
Keeps time to the air they play.  
The elders around are drinking,  
But not one cup will he quaff;  
Oh! of what is the old man thinking,  
As he leans on his oaken staff?"

'Tis not with a vain repining  
That the old man sheds a tear;  
'Tis not for his strength declining,  
He sighs not to linger here;  
There's a spell in the air they play,  
And the old man's eyes are dim,  
For it calls up a past May-day,  
And the dear friends lost to him.  
From the scene before him shrinking,  
From the dance and the merry laugh:  
Of their calm repose he is thinking,  
As he leans on his oaken staff."

#### DRAMA.

*Haymarket.*—On Monday, Mr. Phelps made

his first appearance in the character of *Shylock*. We think Mr. Phelps has a good deal of talent, and will be a most useful actor; but he is not equal to the task of playing any character requiring so much energy, and displaying so much passion, as that in which he appeared. The great points we have been accustomed to hear were, in Mr. Phelps's hand, almost lost, and no new ones made. Still, there were touches of sweet acting in the softer parts of the play, and some pleasant tones of voice, making us regret *Shylock* had been chosen for Mr. Phelps's debut. For the *Richmonds*, and all that class of parts, he will be a valuable accession to the London boards. Webster is the best *Launcelot Gobbo* the stage has had for many years. Mrs. Waylett has been singing some of her sweet ballads, as only she can sing them.

*Strand Theatre.*—A slight piece, called *Absent without Leave*, though supported by the versatile and imitative talents of Mr. Lionel Goldsmid, has not made any strong impression here. It has, however, run through the week; and, by way of riddle, it may be said that it still is, and is not, absent without leave.

#### VARIETIES.

*Invention of Printing.*—A grand festival has been observed at Mentz, in honour of the invention of printing. The ceremonies lasted during the 14th, 15th, and 16th of the month (August); and one of the most interesting features was the opening to the public of the monument to Gutenberg, which has just been finished by Thorwaldsen, and is stated to be a splendid work of genius. *A Te Deum*, composed by Chevalier Neukomm, for the occasion, was sung in grand choral force by above twelve hundred voices. The whole went off with great éclat.

*Railroads.*—A railroad has been opened between Paris and St. Germain, which seems greatly to delight the Parisians.

*Pilchards* have recently appeared and been taken on the Ulster coast, where they were never before seen. The shores of Cornwall and Kinsale are their usual resorts.

*The Maldives Islands.*—Among the animals on the Maldivas are rats and tortoises. The former are very destructive to the cocoa-nuts. They run up the trunk, and introduce themselves into the nut, in which they remain as long as any of the kernel is left, and then quit for another. Sometimes accidents happen from nuts thus destroyed falling on persons passing by. The tortoise are of a small kind; they live in the tanks, and have a very offensive smell, but the flesh is white and tender. These are found only on King's Island, where they are numerous, but are not eaten by the natives. A small kind of harmless snake is sometimes found. The flying-fox is very plentiful; its body is about the same size as that of a crow. There is only one singing bird, a small one, of a black colour, called by the natives *colea*.

*Weather-Wisdom.*—The 30th most entirely fulfilled the prediction of last week; and, indeed, the whole prophecy from Saturday, till now, is a capital hit. Let us, therefore, look forward:—"Changes again about the 4th and 5th days; cloudy and gloomy; cold rains, especially on the 5th. The 6th, changeable. 7th, cloudy, showers. The 8th denotes small rain and misty air, yet windy."

*Royal Institution.*—Among the marked improvements in London, we are glad to see a renewed and handsome architectural front rearing its columns at the Royal Institution, in Albemarle Street. Behind scaffoldings, and amid all the confusion of brickwork, it is not

easy to say what the elevation will really be; but at such a glance as these allow, it seems to promise to look bold and well.

**Comic Library.**—Mr. McLean pursues his series of comicities without a pause, and we have Nos. 7, 8, 9, and 10, spread out, with all their humours, before us. One gives useful and original receipts, such as sweeps in a well-dressed crowd—"a very good black for cottons, silks, &c." The next illustrates courtship, by many ludicrous figures and situations. The third is a comical guide to the arts and sciences, such as a patient fisherman, "Angle," and a cub of a boy at it in a trough; "Try-angle," the rods and lines demonstrating the geometrical problems: and the last, "Adages for all ages," *ex. gr.* "a wise man aims at nothing out of his reach,"—"a Cockney firing at cocks and hens on a dunghill, with a blunderbuss.

#### LITERARY NOVELTIES.

**List of Indian Newspapers.**—Calcutta: Bengal Hurkura, and Chronicle, Calcutta Courier, Englishman and Military Chronicle, daily; India Gazette and Chronicle, thrice a week; Government Gazette (Official), twice a week; Bengal Herald, Literary Gazette, and Reformer, Oriental Observer and Literary Chronicle, with the Military Gazette, Scots Gazette, The Gyananushun (Native Paper), Commercial Price Current, Calcutta Exchange Price Current, weekly; various Native Papers, uncertain; Sporting Magazine, East India United Service Journal, Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, Calcutta Christian Observer, Calcutta Monthly Journal, monthly; Bengal Directory and Annual Register, Bengal Annual, &c., yearly.—Serampore: Friend of India, Sumatrar Durjan (Bengali and English), weekly.—Mofussil: Meerut Observer, Delhi Gazette, Agra Utkhar, Central Free Press, Cawnpore Omnibus, Cawnpore Free Press, weekly; Meerut Universal Magazine, monthly.—Madras: Madras Courier, four times a week; Madras Male Asylum Herald, Madras Gazette, Government Gazette (Official), Madras Times, Standard, Conservative, twice a week; Madras Journal of Literature and Science, monthly; Madras Almanac, Madras Army List, yearly.—Bombay: Bombay Courier, Bombay Gazette, twice a week; Government Gazette (Official), Durpan (Native Paper), weekly; Oriental Christian Spectator, Sporting Magazine, monthly.—Singapore: Singapore Chronicle, Singapore Free Press, weekly.—Penang: Prince of Wales' Island Gazette, weekly.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Domestic Economy, by M. Donovan, Esq. Vol. II. Human Food, forming Vol. XCIV. of Lardner's Cabinet Cyclopædia, Leap 8vo. 6s.—Keith's Signs of the Times, 2 vols. 12mo. 6th edit. 10s. 6d.—Act to amend the Law of Wills, by P. Forster, Esq. 12mo. 2s.—The Law Bill of Exchange, &c. by C. W. Johnson, 12mo. 7s.—Select Letters, by the Rev. J. Wesley, 12mo. 3s. 6d.—Library of Christian Biography, edited by J. Jackson, Vol. I. 12mo. 2s. 6d.—Lives of early Methodist Preachers, edited by T. Jackson, Vol. I. 12mo. 3s.—The Orchestre of Mexico and Guatemala, by J. Bateman, Part I. 4to. 10s. 2s.—Hazard's Delinates, 3d Series, Vol. XXXVII. (the 3d vol. of Session, 1837), 12. 10s. 6d. 13s. 6d. hf. bd.—Sketches in Prose and Poetry, by K. H. 12mo. 10s.—Albion's Gospel of St. Matthew for the Blind, 4to. 5s. 6d.; ditto of St. Mark, 4to. 4s. sewed.

#### METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, 1837.

August.	Thermometer.	Barometer.
Thursday .. 24	From 44 to 69	30.08 to 30.10
Friday .. 25	.... 32 .. 67	30.11 .. 30.06
Saturday .. 26	.... 37 .. 70	29.84 .. 29.85
Sunday .. 27	.... 32 .. 69	30.03 .. 30.09
Monday .. 28	.... 30 .. 63	29.98 .. 29.73
Tuesday .. 29	.... 42 .. 61	29.53 .. 29.40
Wednesday 30	.... 41 .. 57	29.34 .. 29.42

Winds, N.E. and N.W.  
Except the 24th, 25th, and 27th, generally cloudy, with frequent showers of rain; a violent storm of thunder and vivid lightning, accompanied with heavy rain, from about 2 past 11, A.M. till about 1 to 2, P.M. on the 26th, and thundering at times during the afternoon of the 30th. Rain fallen, 2.25 inches, of which 1.2 inch fell during the storm of the 26th.

Edmonton.  
Latitude .. 51° 37' 32" N.  
Longitude .. 3 51, W. of Greenwich.

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

In our Review of the Memoir of Mr. Thelwall, we were not aware that his widow ("the Editor?") was a second wife, and much younger than the lady we supposed. R. W. T. will find a letter at our office.  
We like E. C. much; and if he will allow us to make a very few verbal changes, we will not say corrections, his contributions shall be welcome to our columns.

#### ADVERTISEMENTS,

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